

R. H. Brantley, Jr.

## Native Son Writes Book

A Zebulon native has turned author. He is Russell H. Brantley, Jr.

Brantley completed the first draft of his first novel, rewrote parts of it and sent the manuscript to one publisher. It was accepted.

"Dance With Me," the intriguing title of Brantley's first novel, is scheduled for publication next spring by Macmillan.

Brantley is a mite noncommittal about his novel but the 36-year-old author does say that "Dance With Me" is a novel about contemporary college life and that it will probably raise a few eyebrows in North Carolina.

Those two remarks in themselves don't tell much, but from the lips of this particular writer they could mean a good deal more. For Brantley is director of communications at Wake Forest College, and has been for eight years. He also received his A. B. in English from Wake Forest College. This relationship, then, is a good indication that he has drawn upon Wake Forest College for his concept of "contemporary college life."

Brantley's good fortune in not having to paper his wall with a single rejection slip—so far, at any rate—is more to him than the mere acceptance.

It is a refutation: "People always tell you, 'Don't send a manuscript off without an agent!'" Brantley did not have an agent, and his first novel was accepted.

Brantley, who used to be a newspaperman, is interested in writing a novel about a newspaperman, "a good novel about a newspaperman," regardless of the fate of "Dance With Me."

He calls Zebulon his home even though he was born in Winston-Salem. He was reared and school-



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ed here and his parents still live here.

After graduation from Wake Forest in 1945, he worked for the *Concord Tribune*, *Durham Sun* and *Durham Morning Herald*.

In 1949 he went with the Associated Press in Charlotte and a year later returned to Durham where he was managing editor of the *Morning Herald* for the next three years.

He became director of communications at Wake Forest in 1953 and has been at the same job since.

Brantley's wife, the former Elizabeth Jones, is herself a writer. She has had children's stories published in "Child Life" and "Jack and Jill" and short pieces in "Redbook."

The Brantleys are the parents of two sons, 6 and 10, and a daughter, 13.

## Former Lizard Lick Resident Plans Scheme for Air Safety

A former Lizard Lick resident began some serious thinking after the Bolivia plane crash last year.

Charles Woods, who now operates a Pure Oil Service Station in Wendell, wondered why couldn't some kind of safety device be incorporated into commercial air lines so that more lives could be saved?

He came up with the idea of ejection compartments that would be blasted out of the plane in case of trouble.

This could work whether the plane were flying or should catch fire while sitting on the ground.

His plan would have the passenger cabin detachable from the rest of the plane. Plumbing, electrical and other facilities would be of the snap on type that could break free easily.

If the cabin should be blasted free while the plane is in flight, a big parachute would open automatically to slow down the cabin's flight.

After the cabin was slowed to a certain speed, automatic devices would open other parachutes to ease the plane to the ground.

Life rafts on the bottom of the cabin would inflate automatically if it landed in water.

Escape hatches would allow passengers to get out from the top if the plane landed in water. Survi-

val kits including automatic SOS transmitters would be included.

When the cabin was readied for ejection, passenger seats would tilt back to give more support to passengers.

Woods points out that ejectors in jet planes and rockets would be adapted in this manner to commercial planes.

He is anxious to sell his idea. He said he has been encouraged by the U. S. Patent Office. He said he has checked the office records and finds nothing similar in them.

## New Insurance Agency

Craven Brown, a former resident of Zebulon, has announced the opening of his insurance agency in Middlesex. Brown, who was a coffee broker before entering the insurance field, is married to the former Hazel Winstead. The couple reside on the family estate in Earpsboro.

## LIONS' DANCE

Zebulon Lions are sponsoring a dance Friday night at the club house. Bill Joe Austin and his combo will play for the dance which will start at 9 and end at 1 o'clock. Tickets are \$3.00 per couple.

## Swimming Pool Opens June 1; Regulations Made At Meeting

Zebulon's swimming pool will officially open June 1, it has been announced by the board of directors.

In a meeting held Saturday, May 13, the board fixed the opening date and compiled a list of regulations for the use of the pool.

Saturday and Sunday, May 27-28, the pool will be opened to those who have memberships. This

is, according to the officials, a sort of "testing" of the pool's use. It will be opened only during the afternoons.

Afternoon use of the pool will be only in the afternoons when it opens June 1, the officials said. When school is officially over, the pool will be opened during the morning hours.

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## Waddell Gay, Jimmy Perry Going To Boys' State June 18-24

Two rising seniors of Wakelon High School will have a chance to study government—world, national, state and local—when they attend the 22nd annual Boys' State.

The local American Legion last week selected Waddell Gay and Jimmy Perry for this honor. Micky Hinton and Joe Green were named alternates. Gay is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis W. Gay of Route 3, Zebulon, and Perry is the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Perry of Route 4, Zebulon.

Gay, 17, is a member of the Monogram Club, National Honor Society, Beta Club, and Student Council. He was a member of the basketball squad.

After graduation, he hopes to attend the University of North Carolina and study law. "Since I will be at Carolina for Boys' State, it will give me an opportunity to get acquainted with the school," he said.

Perry, 16, is a member of the Beta Club, National Honor Society, vice president of the Student Council and Science Club. He was active in sports, being on the basketball team.

He said he "hopes he can fulfill the wishes of the Legion" by being selected to go to Boys' State. After school he wants to go to N. C. State College and study engineering.

The American Legion has conducted a Boys' State program each summer since 1939, with the exception of the war years. To attend these programs, outstanding rising high school seniors, selected from all over North Carolina, were sent to the University of North Carolina's widely recognized government-teaching branch, the Institute of Government, to hear lectures and discussions by public officials, faculty members, and leading Legionnaires. As a part of their training, the delegates attending have each year organized their own cities, counties, and state, elected their own officials, and put into practice some of the theories of government they have studied.

The local Legion Post will provide transportation for the two boys to and from Chapel Hill. The program begins June 18 and continues through June 24.

## Restaurant Reopens With New Managers

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wyatt Whitaker opened a restaurant in Zebulon Monday. It is in the building formerly occupied by Smitty's Cafe.

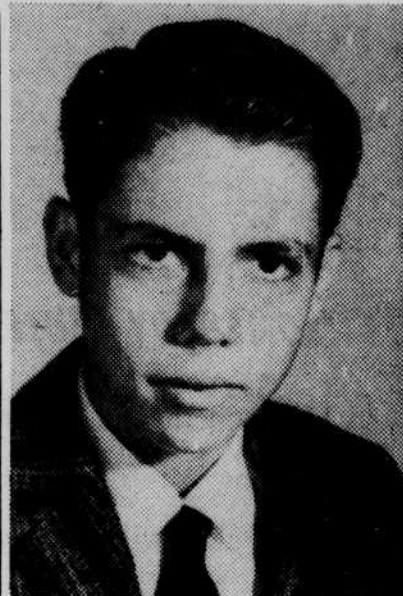
Mrs. Whitaker, the former Alison Blandford of Newfoundland, Canada, said the business will open at 5:30 a.m. and close at 9 p.m. seven days a week.

The meals will all be home cooked and prepared in the best possible manner. There will also be short orders.

Whitaker is a native Johnstonian. He was born near Corinth-Holders School. He and his wife operated a drive-in restaurant in Wendell for five months before coming to Zebulon.

They are the parents of five children, all married, and nine grandchildren.

Mrs. Bertha Hood and Mrs. Maggie Stevens are associated with the business. Mrs. Hood as waitress and Mrs. Stevens as cook.



Waddell Gay



Jimmy Perry

## Wake Citizens To Vote June 6 For Better Library Facilities

All citizens of Wake County interested in bettering the inadequate library facilities of Raleigh and Wake County were invited and urged to attend a meeting Monday, May 15, at 8:00 p.m., in the Auditorium of the Occidental Life Insurance Building in Cameron Village.

The meeting was sponsored by Raleigh-Wake County Citizens Committee for Library Improvements, of which Raleigh attorney R. Mayne Albright serves as chairman. Its purpose is promotion of the library bond and tax referendum scheduled for June 6.

Passage of the two issues will provide a main library building and funds for a recommended Wake County Library system.

Two proposals will be put to the voters in the June 6 referendum.

All citizens of Wake County, including Raleigh residents, will vote on the levying of a special tax, not to exceed seven cents per hundred dollar valuation, to cre-

ate and operate a county-wide library system. The system would serve the entire county through a main library building in downtown Raleigh, branches throughout the county, and continuing bookmobile service.

In addition, citizens of Raleigh will vote upon the issuance of bonds, not to exceed \$850,000, to provide and equip the main library building for the system, as well as two branch libraries in the most populous residential sections of Raleigh.

The bill enacted into law by the 1961 General Assembly which enables the city and county to call the special elections also provides for the establishment of the Wake County Library Commission to operate the system. Within its provisions is outlined a plan whereby any municipality in the county may, by providing a suitable building and its exterior upkeep, establish a branch library (Continued on Page 7)



JUST JUMP IN . . . They didn't have to catch the 8½-pound large mouth bass. He just jumped into the boat. So said Wilbur Blackley, Howard Beck, Jr., Tommy Kimball and Barry Brannan. The four were frog gigging on Graham Bunn's pond about two miles above Hopkins Cross Roads. Suddenly the 23-inch fish lunged out of the murky waters and into the boat. "We didn't know what was happening," they said. Kimball grabbed the tail of the fish and Blackley grabbed his head, sticking his fist down the huge mouth. It was quite a night for the four young men. And besides, they got frogs, too. Blackley is shown holding the catch, with left to right, Kimball, Brannan, and Beck looking on.