

Carolina Company Asks For Another Boost In Charges

Telephone Firm Says High- er Rates Needed To Fi- nance Expansion

For the second time in 15 months, the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company has petitioned the State for sizable rate increases over the big territory it serves in Eastern North Carolina.

In an application to the State Utilities Commission, the Tarboro firm asked for rate hikes big enough to increase its gross revenue by \$900,000 a year and to cover salary and wage increases being made this year. The company said it already has upped the salaries and wages of its employees by \$115,300 since January 1. Further increases amounting to around \$78,000 are planned for the remainder of the year, it said.

Carolina Telephone, whose exchanges serve a large portion of Eastern North Carolina, won its last rate hikes from the commission in April, 1949. The increase then amounted to \$603,958 in gross revenue annually. The hikes in residential rates ranged from 25 cents to \$1 a month, and in business rates from 25 cents to \$1.75. At several exchanges, rural rates were hiked 25 cents.

The firm proposed no specific rates in yesterday's application. It said it was leaving up to the commission the setting of new rates for the various exchanges and types of service.

It asked a hearing at the earliest possible date. The commission did not set the time.

The company said it needed the additional money to continue its big expansion program.

Its earnings for last March, figured on an annual basis, were approximately four per cent on the company's gross investment and about five per cent on its net investment, said the application.

"The earnings have steadily declined since the granting of the last adjustment in rates by the commission (on April 30, 1949)."

"Petitioner feels that the continued decline in rate of return on its investment will make it difficult to raise the necessary capital to carry on its present and proposed plans to improve and expand its plant to meet the demands of the public it serves."

The additional \$900,000 a year in gross revenue, plus the amount of the wage and salary increases and corresponding expense, "will be required for a reasonable rate of return on its present plant investment."

The firm said that further additions to its facilities for the remainder of this year will run to about \$3,000,000. "Consideration of this additional investment of rates for the future."

The company said its investment had increased by about \$4,680,000 since November, 1948. It now totals around \$23,000,000.

The improvements and expansion program now is being financed by short term bank loans "which will necessitate permanent financing in the future," said the petition.

The firm said it had increased its phones by 20 per cent, or more than 14,900, between December 1, 1948, and April 30, 1950. This gain required the installations of 49,189 phones, as 25,266 were removed and replaced during the period. Unfilled orders totaled around 13,000 last April 30, or increase of 1000 over December 1, 1948.

Work On Drainage Project Going Forward In County

While major projects are tied up in legalities, work on a drainage program is advancing rapidly in Griffins Township, late reports stating that approximately one and one-half miles of the Roberson swamp or mill pond had been drained, and that the project in all probability, will be completed within the next three or four weeks.

Citizens in the community, circumventing drainage district taxation, put up voluntary contributions to finance the project estimated to cost \$5,000. Present plans call for about two miles of drainage work. The Hill Construction Company is handling the project with a drag line.

Commenting on the project this week, property owners there said

they were well pleased with the work, that there had been marked improvement in drainage.

Quite a few individual drainage projects have been successfully handled in the county during recent months, and other projects are being considered on a limited scale.

During the meantime plans are still going forward for drainage projects on a district basis, and reports indicate that the important work will go forward rapidly just as soon as the value of the work is proved.

Property owners are meeting in the Robersonville area there this evening at 8:00 o'clock to discuss plans for a Collie Swamp drainage project and others are studying the advisability of launching similar projects.

HAPPINESS WEEK

Manchester, England
A city suburb is to hold a Happiness Week from June 17-14 in which people must smile and be happy "Whether they like it or not."

Levenshulme, Manchester is to hold this first civic week of happiness, and the organizers, hope that other places will follow suit and arrange nationwide weeks with smiles completely off the ration.

Householders and shopkeepers are being asked to fly bunting and flags to hid any grimy buildings.

Festivities have been arranged at which people will be told: "Forget your income tax and domestic problems for a week."

Veterans Make Pasture Tour

Seven permanent pastures were visited by members of the Jamesville Veterans Farm Training Program on a tour last Tuesday afternoon. The tour was conducted as a part of the training program for the veterans enrolled in the Jamesville school. Several types of pastures were visited and each showed excellent results are being obtained from the different mixtures seeded. The mixtures included Ladino clover and fescue; White Dutch clover and Dallis grass; Ladino clover, Rye grass and fescue; White Dutch clover and Redtop grass; Bermuda grass and White Dutch clover; and Ladino clover and Orchard grass.

One important thing was noted on the tour, that regardless of the type of mixture seeded, the important factor in growing a good pasture is in the fertilization.

In addition to the pasture tour a demonstration on irrigating pastures was conducted by the Standard Fertilizer Company. Also as an experiment a demonstration was given on applying fertilizer through the irrigating system on trainee John D. Lilley's pasture. The results of these demonstrations will be checked to determine the increased grazing days on this pasture.

Pastures visited those of James Smithwick, Marvin Jones, Julian Hosea Fagan, Grady Davenport, John D. Lilley, McDonald Hardison and Hugh B. and J. T. Griffin. All are members of the veteran program with the exception of Marvin Jones.

Those making the tour other than members of the veteran program and Young Farmers Club included T. B. Elliot, District Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture; E. Y. Floyd, Director of the Plant Food Institute of N. C. and Va.; T. B. Brandon and Sam Tuten of the Extension Service; H. F. McKnight and Davis VanNortwick of the Soil Conservation Service; and T. W. Crockett and J. H. McBrayer of the Standard Fertilizer Company.

Those making the tour other than members of the veteran program and Young Farmers Club included T. B. Elliot, District Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture; E. Y. Floyd, Director of the Plant Food Institute of N. C. and Va.; T. B. Brandon and Sam Tuten of the Extension Service; H. F. McKnight and Davis VanNortwick of the Soil Conservation Service; and T. W. Crockett and J. H. McBrayer of the Standard Fertilizer Company.

Sale Of Poppies Amounts to \$354

Mrs. Jimmy Taylor, county chairman of the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Sale, reported yesterday on the amount of money taken in by her co-chairman and co-chairwomen through the sale of poppies.

Collections were: Mr. Phillip Keel, Robersonville chairman, \$13.75; Mrs. Hassell Worsley, Oak City, \$22.90; Mrs. M. L. White, Hamilton, \$10.50; Mrs. Raleigh Harrington, Jamesville, \$24.50 and Mrs. Taylor, Williamston, \$283.15

Mrs. Taylor expressed her sincere appreciation to all who helped make Wear-A-Poppy Memorial Day a success and stated that the above reports were not complete; that a few donations were still coming in.

Refrigerator Motor Burns In Home Here

Firemen were called out here this morning when a refrigerator motor caught fire and smoked up the home occupied by Lillis Hands and owned by Mary Gray on South Smithwick Street.

Hundreds Attend Concert Here By Green Wave Band

High School Musicians Travel to Charlotte Sunday For State Test

Close to a thousand friends and supporters left the Williamston ball park last night proud of the Williamston High School Green Wave Band which had just completed the big step in their preparations for representing Williamston at the State Lions Convention in Charlotte on Monday afternoon, June 19.

It was a big night for the band which gave an excellent account of itself and it was also a big one for the Williamston Lions' club which had just topped its goal of \$1,000 to defray the band's expenses to the Queen City. The Lions had over \$700 as a direct result of the concert ticket sales and with the \$150 the club had set aside for the project and \$150 set aside by the town the goal was passed with a margin.

Not all the tickets were sold in Williamston, as there were spectators from as far as 65 miles, including Washington and other nearby towns.

The band started its outdoor concert, the first it has ever held on such a scale, with a rousing march, "Men Of Ohio", by Fillmore. Then came an excellent rendition of that well known overture by Grundman, "Two Moods." A little pop tune thrown in as a relief was next in line, "I'll Dance at Your Wedding."

Dedicated to the recently formed Williamston unit of the National Guard, the next number was well received. It was, "There's Something About a Soldier," arranged by Yoder.

Following a light number, "In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree," arranged by Teague, the band presented one of its favorite marches, "The Billboard," by Kiohr. Then came "Tea for Two" and a waltz, "Memories." The regular concert program closed with the ever popular number, "Red Rhythm Valley," as arranged by Hill.

Because they still had a lot of playing and marching to do in the drill and maneuver program, Director Jack Butler restricted encores to one number, "Good-night Medley."

Following the concert, a fifteen minute break was taken to get the band ready for dress parade and inspection by two sergeants and a civilian who judged the music during the drills.

The band was given a superior rating by its critics, only one or two very small defects being noted for correction in later practice sessions before the Charlotte trip. The cadence, except for one brief instant, was reported as virtually perfect.

Working and worrying and driving these past two weeks, Professor Butler declared after the show that it was worth it, and said, "You can quote me: 'They are a grand bunch of kids.'"

The band marched down the field, countermarched, turned left and came across just on the grass back of second base and turned right to come up the first base line, stopping still at the very instant they ceased playing. They received warm applause from the stands. Then they turned and marched at an angle across the field, the last part of this being a silent march during which the crowd was so still the footsteps of the marchers was plainly audible and in perfect time. Coming back

(Continued on page eight)

Place Bass In Gardner's Creek

Cecil Bullock and Oscar Taylor, employees of the game and fish division of the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, placed 10,000 large mouth bass in Gardner's Creek between Williamston and Jamesville last Friday.

The young fish were secured from a hatchery near Fayetteville and according to Bullock he fish averaged about two inches in length.

Replica Of Old Liberty Bell To Be Here June 24

Bell Being Brought Here In Interest Of Independ- ence Savings Bonds

An exact duplicate of the famous old Liberty Bell in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, said to have the same tone as the original bell will be displayed in Williamston June 24 between the hours of 3:00 and 5:00 p. m., it was announced today.

Messrs. D. V. Clayton and H. A. Bowen, co-chairman of the Independence Savings Bond Drive in this area, explained that the bell is being brought to this county in connection with the current bond drive. They added, however, that no bond selling will be advanced during the visit of the bell.

"We are using the bell merely to point out the importance of investments in savings bonds," the chairman explained.

The Savings Bond Division of the United States Treasury Department is conducting a national stimulation bond drive to increase public participation in the bond program and to point out the opportunity of investing for the future.

When Treasury Secretary John W. Snyder announced that the Independence Savings Bond Drive would be symbolized by the Liberty Bell, six of the nation's copper producers volunteered to manufacture and donate fifty-two replicas of the old bell to highlight the drive ending July 4.

At the conclusion of the drive, the bell now touring this State will be given to North Carolina, it was explained.

Bellmasters throughout the country have examined the duplicates and assert that because of this exact similarity of structure to the original bell, the sound is the same as that heard in Philadelphia in 1776.

All citizens are urged to see the bell and hear the message "Save for your Independence" when the bell visits Williamston on Saturday, June 24.

Commencement on Friday For UVBS

The Union Vacation Bible School will hold its fourteenth commencement on Friday evening at 8:00 o'clock in the sanctuary of the Memorial Baptist Church.

Well attended by youngsters between the ages of 4 and 12 the school this year has been a successful one and the leaders are urging the public to attend the exercises and see how much the children have learned during the short period of study.

There will be exhibits of hand work and other items which have been prepared under the direction of Mrs. M. L. Peel, Jr., who took over after Miss Margaret McDaniel was taken ill during the early part of the school. Bill Spivey has been in charge of the boys' activities and recreational program.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Possibly they are not trying quite hard enough to attain perfection, but motorists on Martin County highways and town streets have not traveled through a single week so far this year with a record clear of accidents. In the 23rd week of last year, such a record was entered in the files. This year three more were added during the corresponding week.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend; first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

23rd Week

Accidents Inj'd Killed Dam'ge	
1950	3 1 0 \$ 235
1949	0 0 0 00

Comparisons To Date

1950	69	35	0	\$15,750
1949	49	24	2	12,205

Early Murder Trial Set For Wednesday

Twenty-five Cases Slated For Trial In Superior Court

Private Prosecution Hired In Murder Case Against Negro Doctor

Twenty-five cases have been placed on the criminal docket for trial during the one-week term of the Martin County Superior Court, beginning next Monday morning at 10:00 o'clock. Judge Q. K. Nimocks of Fayetteville is scheduled to return and preside over the mixed term.

The murder case against Edward L. Early, Jr., Williamston Negro doctor, has been set for trial on Wednesday, June 21, and it is certain to attract much attention. Early, now at liberty under \$5,000 bond, is charged with, on May 28, "with malice and forethought did kill and murder one Odelsie Keyes with a .38 calibre pistol." The defendant, paying \$500 for a bond, left the county shortly after his release and is reported with relatives in Washington, D. C. Attorney Robt. L. Coburn has been retained by the dead woman's father, Rev. Raleigh Keyes, to assist Solicitor George Fountain in prosecuting the charge against the killer.

Early, shortly after the fatal attack, declared they were playing, that the pistol was fired accidentally. The victim died in a hospital early the next morning without regaining consciousness.

Eighteen cases have been scheduled for trial next Monday, as follows:

Walter Wiggins is charged with having carnal knowledge of a female, Angeline Cromwell, 16, and causing her bodily harm. The alleged attack was said to have taken place last March 22. He is at liberty under \$500 bond.

Ananias Thompson is charged with the temporary larceny of a car from J. D. Carr. Charged with taking the car on May 14, Thompson was released under bond.

Johnnie Haynes is charged with having forged the name of Thomas Stevenson on a check on April 20. Unable to arrange bond he continues in jail.

Marvin Brantley, alias C. B. Wilson, is charged with false pretense. He is said to have passed worthless checks in the amount of \$15 each on Roberson's Easo Station in Williamston and Thurman Stalls' Easo Station in Robersonville.

Zeno Brown is charged with the larceny of two cars, one from Jim Taylor on March 29, and one from Ollie Page, Jr., on April 6. Bond was required in the sum of \$1,000.

Harold Asby is charged with assaulting A. T. Lilley in the Lilley home in Williams Township on May 3 and taking \$500 in cash.

James L. Morrison, alias Walter C. Rogers, alias June W. Gibson, is charged with obtaining goods and money under false pretense from three firms in Williamston, the Wear Right Shop, Ann's Specialty Shop and the Proctor Shop.

On April 3, James Savage is alleged to have waylaid and shot Gadsis Harris between Hamilton and Palmyra. The victim, shot in the legs, recovered. The defendant arranged bond in the sum of \$500.

Charlie Phillips, Jr., England Andrews and John Smith are alleged to have broken into and stole merchandise valued at less than \$50 and \$2 in cash from Luke Chance's store near Parmele on May 3. They arranged bond in the sum of \$200 each.

Jesse Outerbridge, according to the warrant, about the middle of last February did carnally know or abuse Daisel Jones, female over 12 and under 16 years of age. Bond was arranged in the sum of \$500.

William Alfred Wiggins is alleged to have broken into the home of Gabriel Wiggins on the night of May 27.

Clarence Lay and Louis Grant

(Continued on page eight)

Violators Of Dog Vaccination Laws In Local Courts

Few Other Cases Handled By Justice Of Peace In Past Few Days

The drive to account for all dogs under the anti-rabies law is still going forward in this county. While no late report has been released by Inspector Dennis Roberson of Robersonville, it was learned that several alleged violators of the law had been cited to the courts. According to one report a goodly number of dogs have been killed in the county where ownership could not be established. Others who were careless about having their dogs immunized against rabies, are taking action and indications now point to a successful drive.

Six persons were in Justice Chas. R. Mobley's court a few days ago, and eight other cases, charging violations of the dog vaccination law are pending, the justice said yesterday.

The case charging Charlie Brown with failing to have his dog vaccinated was not pressed. It was explained that the dog charged to Brown had been killed in accordance with instructions from the inspector, that the warrant was issued in error.

In four other cases which Orange Peel, Nathan Cowan, D. G. Godard and John Leggett were defendants, the court suspended judgement upon the payment of \$5.85 costs each. It was explained that the dogs had either been vaccinated or killed, but that the action was taken to late.

Other cases handled recently by Justice Mobley follow:

Drunk and disorderly, Jesse Whitley, colored, and Joe Dowdy were each sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the jail term upon the payment of \$5.85 costs.

Frank Cross was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost for being drunk and disorderly, the court suspending a 30-day road sentence.

Charged with improper parking, Roosevelt Taylor was taxed with \$5.85 costs.

Nathan Howard, charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, was required to pay \$6.85 costs.

Add Divorce Cases To Court Calendar

A last-minute bid for marital freedom was made this week when three plaintiffs placed divorce cases on the calendar for trial in the Martin County Superior Court next week. Nine divorce cases had been placed on the calendar previously.

Suing Elmo Privott for divorce, Carolyn Privott said they were married on August 5, 1946, and separated about six months later in February, 1947, that no children were born to the union.

In her divorce action against LeRoy Salsbury, Mozella Salsbury said they were married on December 25, 1937, and separated about ten years later in September, 1947, that no children were born of the union and that the defendant was last heard from in Maryland.

Joseph Cotton in his suit for a divorce from Cherrie Vick Cotton, says they were married on July 7, 1933 and separated in April, 1934. The one child born of the union has been in the custody of and cared for by the plaintiff's father. The defendant is now a resident of New York State.

Johnson said the race issue

(Continued on page eight)

Will Build New Filling Station Officers Raided Home In County

Plans are about complete for the construction of a modern filling station on the corner of Houghton and Railroad Streets. The builder, Jesse Whitley, is clearing the site and plans to start construction on the modern building within the next few days.

No official announcement was made, but the project will cost approximately \$15,000, it was learned.

To be leased for the sale of Texaco products, the filling station is to be operated by Pete Raynor.

Clarence Lay and Louis Grant

(Continued on page eight)