

Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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KENANSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

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No. 23

Duplin County Tax Rate Fixed At \$1.60; Budget Is Set

The Board of County Commissioners last Monday fixed the 1946 County Tax Rate at \$1.60. The raise was necessary to care for increased school appropriations requested by the County Board of Education. The Board of Commissioners and Board of Education have met in joint session several times to consider school needs, and to hear various groups discuss public educational requirements.

The tax rate was increased 25c on the \$100.00 of property valuation - all of which goes for schools, and more.

Last year's rate of \$1.35 was made up of 15c for general county purposes, 5c for poor, 8c for health, 4c for Old Age Assistance, 2c for Aid to Dependent Children, 1c for Aid to the Blind, 75c for County Debt Service, and 25c for Schools - 17c of which was for School Debt Service.

The 1946 rate is being levied as follows: 15c for General County purposes, 5c for Poor, 6c for Health, 32c for County Debt Service, 4c for Old Age Assistance, 2c for Aid to Dependent Children, 1c for Aid to the Blind, and 95c for Schools - 8c of which is for School Debt Service.

The approved school budget for 1946-47 fiscal year amounts to \$360,947.93. Of this \$219,872.93 is to be derived from sources other than 1946 taxes. All tax payers are thereby getting benefit of back tax collections.

COUNTY SELLS BONDS AT LOW INTEREST

The Local Government Commission on last Tuesday sold \$115,000 Duplin County Bonds to Well, Roth & Irving Company and Breed & Harrison, Inc., the low bidders, for 2 per cent interest plus a premium, making the net interest rate 1.98. There were 3 bids submitted for the bonds. This is the lowest interest rate ever obtained by the County.

\$50,000 of these bonds were New School Building bonds. \$65,000 were refunding bonds, issued in order that a like amount could be included in the 1946-47 budget for school purposes.

PETE QUINN, LUCKY DEVIL

The Kenansville Lions Club raffled off a mule last week. At the regular monthly meeting on Wednesday night of last week, in Roscoe Jones' Cafe, tickets were drawn by Roscoe's little daughter. The first ticket drawn bore the name of L. H. Quinn, L. H., better known as "Pete" won the mule. Pete is a big joker around Kenansville and usually can take it as well as he can give it. The Times asked him to pose on the donkey for a picture but "Pete" couldn't quite get up the nerve. The mule was purchased from Sheriff Williamson. The Sheriff donated a goat for second drawing. The second name drawn was Mrs. J. H. Daughtry. Won't those Daughtry kids and their little neighbors have a big time with the goat? The club cleared \$205 from the raffie. This fund goes to the aid of the blind in Duplin.

Farm Labor Assistant Begins Work In Duplin

The services of Mr. James M. Hunter, as County Farm Labor Assistant, has been secured for Duplin County, cooperating with Mr. Lucy T. Weeks. His duties will be to assist, if possible, farmers with the problem of securing labor for harvesting food and feed crops including tobacco. Mr. Hunter is a graduate of Duke University and was recently employed by the Farm Security Administration. He succeeds Mr. Richard Pickett who has resumed farming. The new Assistant is generally known throughout the county and is quite familiar with labor conditions in Duplin.

Attorney Beasley Writes About Wife Beating

Attorney L. A. Beasley of Kenansville had a story in last week's State magazine giving some of the law as it related to wife beating in North Carolina in days gone by. Mr. Beasley's article follows:

"The law in North Carolina as to wife beating is interesting but reflects no credit upon us or our English ancestors. If one will take the time to read the history as to our forbears, he will find that from the middle ages the lords of creation had a legal right to inflict corporal punishment upon a wife who talked back. This seemed to have been sanctioned by both church and state in England, and was but mild recreation among our ancestors. They seemed to have brought this law, with them, as they settled in the United States. In State vs. Rhodes, N. C. 61, p. 53 the special verdict established the fact that Rhodes beat his wife with switches no larger than his finger, not so large as his thumb. The lower court found him not guilty, and the Supreme Court unanimously affirmed the judgment. This was in 1867. She had talked back to him.

In State vs. Oliver, 70 N. C. 61, the defendant whipped his wife because she had not fried his meat like he wanted it, and because she and her mother had aggravated him. Five licks with two switches 4 feet long. He was fined \$10, and appealed. The Supreme Court upheld the lower court on the ground of malice, and it may be that if there had been no malice, the verdict would have been set aside.

In State vs. Huntley, 91 N. C. 617, the defendant got what was coming to him, for beating his wife. Since that time, a law has been passed making it a misdemeanor to strike a female, and also the law of evidence has been modified so that a wife can testify against a husband if he assaults her, and since that time many lords have been laid by the heels by an outraged court."

L. A. Beasley.

RESUMES PRACTICE



ROBERT L. WEST

of Warsaw, former solicitor of the Duplin County Court was sworn into his old job Monday by Clerk R. V. Wells and prosecuted Monday's calendar.

Mr. West took leave of absence when he joined the armed forces in May, 1942. On returning home he has resumed his general law practice.

He was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Army Air Corps on May 17, 1942, and was immediately stationed at the Miami Beach Air Field where he remained until he was shipped to the Pacific in July of last year. While at Miami he was promoted to captain and later to Major. On April 23rd of this year he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. West saw service at Saipan, Guam, Tokyo and Manila.

Outlaw's Bridge AUV To Meet Saturday

The Outlaw's Bridge AUV will meet Saturday afternoon, June 8, at 3 o'clock. Members are urged to attend the meeting.

Addison Jenrette Is New Assistant Farm Agent For Duplin

The Board of Commissioners of Duplin County approved Mr. Addison Jenrette, as Assistant Farm Agent of Duplin County on Monday, June 4. Mr. Jenrette was born and reared on a farm in Brunswick County where he attended and finished Waccamaw High School. He graduated from North Carolina State College in March 1943, with a B. S. degree in agriculture, after which he entered the armed forces and served 37 months. Fifteen months were served overseas in the CBI theater. Mr. Jenrette comes to Duplin recommended highly by his friends and professors at State College. His duties in the county will be assisting with the various Extension Programs now underway, such as 4-H Field Crops, Livestock, Agricultural Engineering, Poultry, Farm Management and others.

Duplin Boy Makes Honor At F. M. S.

At the graduating exercises in Waynesboro, Va., of the Fishburne Military School, nine boys from North Carolina were among the 44 to be graduated. The graduating class represented 11 States and the District of Columbia.

Among the Undergraduates who received special awards during the commencement exercises included J. B. Stroud, III, of Faison, a Junior, who tied with John F. Kay, Jr., of Charleston, W. Va., for the Junior Scholarship medal each making a general average of 92.3-5 for the year.

Duplin County Junior Red Cross Report For 1946

Balance in service fund - Aug. 1945, \$324.47
Used for gift and educational boxes, \$200.00; Balance \$124.47
Receipts - White Schools, \$343.65; Colored Schools, \$64.43; Balance in Bank, \$124.47; Total \$532.55.

Disbursements - For Journals, \$157.50; Children's Fund, \$25.00; Magazine Racks, \$12.00; Flowers-Cherry Point, \$2.00; Material for Projects, \$115.00; Gift and Educational Boxes, \$107.18; Total, 418.68. Balance in Bank 5-27-46, \$113.82.

To completed projects - below:
Coat hangers, 50 bedroom slippers, 3 cushion covers, 200 utility kits, 10 diet card holders, 10 writing boards, 50 crossword puzzles, 10 bridge score pads, 150 Xmas cards, 20 Mother's Day cards, 5 Chinese checkers & marbles, 2 shuffle boards, 5 new and used games, 5 jig saw puzzles, 6 Afghans, 3 card table covers, 3 lap robes, 100 wash cloths, 10 lap boards, 20 bridge tallies, 50 memo pads, 50 library cards and envelopes, 10 Easter cards, 10 checker boards, 3 fox and geese, 20 glass ash trays, 50 playing cards, and 10 pocket size novels. Have sent 260 gift boxes costing \$2.00 each Mrs. Geo. Bennett.

Tax Collector Henderson Reports

Tax Collector I. N. Henderson reported to the board of county commissioners Monday a total tax collection in May of \$7,189.06.

Smith Farmer Is Suicide

Willie James Smith, 54 year old farmer of Smith's Township, killed himself instantly Thursday morning when he shot himself in the heart with a single barrel shot gun.

C. B. Sitterson, coroner-elect, in the absence of coroner Ralph Jones, made the investigation, accompanied by Sheriff Williamson and Clerk of Court R. V. Wells. It was ruled a clear case of suicide and no inquest will be held.

The story related by officers says that Mrs. Smith had gone to visit a neighbor when another neighbor came to the house. On entering the visitor called "is anyone home?" About that time she heard a muffled shot. At the time, his brother John Cameron and a son were coming out of the woods in front of the house with bean poles. On hearing the shot they went into the house, and with the visiting neighbor, they investigated and found Mr. Smith lying on the floor with a hole in his left breast. He had shot himself while sitting by a window in a low chair.

The only accounting for the act is that he had been in poor health for some time.

Funeral plans had not been made at this writing.

He is survived by his widow; two sons, Pete and Richard, two daughters, Ruby and Mrs. L. F. Jones; three brothers, John Cameron, Sam, and Tom; two sisters, Mrs. Scott Herring and Mrs. J. R. Noecker and his mother, Mrs. Jim Enoch Smith.

Potato Plants

Bear On Vines

Mrs. J. W. Satter of Kenansville displayed this week a huge Irish potato plant from her garden bearing potatoes on the vines as well as roots. The fruit (is it a fruit?) on the vine resembled a small green tomato. County Commissioner Preston Wells says that the potato and the tomato are of the same family. The tomato is a fruit.

4-H Clubbers Will Crown King & Queen

The 4-H Club Members of Duplin County will meet in Kenansville on Saturday, June 15, at 3.00 P. M., for their Spring Federation Program. The County King and Queen of Health will be crowned. A representative from the State 4-H Club Office will be present to discuss with the club members current 4-H activities and programs. Plans for the annual 4-H club encampment and 4-H Short Course will be outlined. The girls Dress Revue will be held in connection with this program. In addition to an interesting program, the club members will enjoy recreation. Every club member in the county is encouraged to attend this meeting.

Four Persons Injured As Truck Hits Wagon

Clinton, June 5 — Four people were injured - two critically - as a large truck owned by the Cates Pickle Co., of Faison struck a wagon on Highway No. 24 in Autryville around 6 o'clock this morning.

The injured are Thelma Gray Johnson, 16, both legs broken below the knees and probably other injuries; Edna Earle Parrish, 14, back injuries, probable fracture; Sallie Parrish, 12, shock and lacerations, and Johnnie Johnson, 21, facial injuries and a gash on the head.

The injured were taken to a Fayetteville hospital.

Thelma Johnson was probably the most injured of the four. Both the truck and wagon were headed in the same direction. The truck was driven by Solomon Powell of Faison. He said that he was blinded by the sun, and did not see the wagon until he was too close to stop. The wagon was demolished, but the mule pulling it was unhurt.

Johnnie Johnson was driving the mule, and the three girls hurt were sitting in the rear of the wagon when it was hit. The Parrish girls live in Selma and were visiting the Johnson family in Autryville. Highway Patrolman N. H. Parrish investigated the accident. Solomon Powell will be called for a hearing.

Rockfish Couple Held Without Bail For Murder Of Landlord Last Week

Mose Artis, Negro, and his wife, kills Geo. G. Houston in cold blood; Husband carried state prison for safe keeping; Some talk of possible lynching.

Mose Artis, Sr., Negro and wife, Katie Artis, of Rockfish Township, are being held without privilege of bail on a charge of premeditatedly killing George G. Houston, white farmer, and their landlord, of Rockfish Township on last Friday.

Sheriff Williamson, fearing some possible effort to take Mose from the local jail, got in touch with Governor Cherry this week and the Governor ordered the sheriff to take Mose to State Prison in Raleigh for safe keeping. His wife is being held here.

They will come up for trial on a charge of first degree murder in next term of Superior Court which is scheduled to be held in July.

The shooting occurred about 5 o'clock Friday afternoon, May 1st, on the farm of Houston. Evidence presented by the State at a hearing before Justice of the Peace C. B. Sitterson in the court house here this week showed that Mrs. Houston, wife of the deceased, was standing on her porch on the fatal afternoon. She testified that her husband was standing beside her and Mose Artis, Sr., was plowing in a field in front of the house, about 100 yards distance. Houston said he was going to and persuade Mose to plow out some cotton that was about eaten up with grass.

That Artis was tending crops for Huston on halves, Houston furnishing one half of the fertilizer, team and land and Artis doing the work. They had crops of tobacco, corn, cotton and cucumbers. She said she saw Houston approach Artis at the end of a row. They talked a few minutes. Artis then called his wife and went to meet her towards the middle of the field. She came with her son Mose, Jr., who was carrying a gun. Mose, Sr., met them and

took the gun from the little boy and went to where Houston was standing. She saw him raise the gun, aim at Houston and shoot. Her husband, she said, still stood. She saw Artis raise the gun, aim and shoot again. Her husband still did not fall. Houston then started towards the house and Artis ran around in front of him and knocked him down, told her not to come out, and shot him a third time while on the ground.

The Negro then forced Mrs. Houston to go into the field and get the mule and take him to the house. He told her she could come back a certain distance of her husband.

Mrs. Houston said that Artis' wife told her about a month before the shooting that she kept Artis from killing her husband on a number of times.

According to evidence Houston let Artis get two mortgages on his crop and Artis wanted Houston to release the crop so he could give another mortgage.

Deputy Sheriff Powell testified that both of Houston's arms were broke, a long wound was on his forehead and a hole in his chest.

Chief Boone of Wallace testified that a gun wad from a shell was inside Houston's clothing, indicating buck shot was used.

Mose Artis, Jr., son of the defendant, a small boy 8 or 9 years old, and witness for the State, testified that he took he gun across the field to the defendant. His mother was with him; that a few days before, he went with his father to get advice, as to what to do; that the person asked, told his father, the defendant, that if Houston came into the field and interfered with him, to beat him.

Soon after the killing Artis surrendered himself to Wallace town officials and was brought to Kenansville. Sheriff's officers then went to his home and arrested his wife.

Board Education Plans School Construction

The Board of Education met here last Monday and decided that since bids on Beulaville and other school construction projects were so high they would proceed to construct emergency buildings without letting contracts. Supt. O. P. Johnson will supervise the construction, thereby saving the county quite a bit of money.

Construction is expected to get underway in a short time on an elementary building at Beulaville; two additional rooms at B. F. Grady and two additional rooms at Chinguapin. Also they are planning to construct a \$10,000 building for the Branch colored school. It was voted to increase fire insurance on all school property 25 per cent.

Duplin Red Cross Report For 1946

Kenansville District, goal \$900, contributed, \$915.12; Beulaville, goal, \$800, contributed \$254.63; Outlaw's Bridge, goal, \$100, contributed \$107.71; Rose Hill, goal, \$1,000, cont. 1,002.00; Chinguapin, goal 375, cont. 359.04; Potters Hill goal 75, cont. 76.; Calypso, goal, 650, cont. 655.; Tenchey goal, 100, cont. 100.; Warsaw goal, 1,600, cont. 1,710.20; B. F. Grady goal, 475, cont. 303.55; Wallace goal 2,000, cont. 1,858.07; Faison goal, 725, cont. 743.63; Magnolia goal 350, cont. 175.56; At Large cont. 15.56; Totals: goals, \$8,925; cont. \$8,276.67.

It will be noted that eight of the districts made their goals or surpassed them and five did not.

Rose Hill has the distinction of again being the first to reach its goal. Warsaw overscribed its goal by the largest amount. These figures were submitted by Gustav H. Ulrich, chairman of the drive.

Service Officer Takes Over Duties

Duplin Service Officer J. B. Wallace resumed duties of the office Monday after having been given a leave of absence for several weeks. During the time Robert C. Wells has been acting in the office. Mr. Wells reported having interviewed 27 veterans during May.

Miss Boyette In Clerk's Office

Miss Marie Boyette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Boyette of the Johnson Church community, Monday began work in the Clerk of Court's Office. Miss Boyette completed a business course at Campbell College last Friday.

ARMY NURSE SENT TO NEW ORLEANS

Dorothy Vann Edgerton, Ensign (Nurse Corps), USNR, recently reported for duty at the U. S. Naval hospital, in New Orleans, La. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl D. Edgerton of B. F. Grady.

Miss Edgerton graduated from Faison High School, attended Guilford college and trained at Rex Hospital, graduating in 1944. She received her commission on February 5, 1945, and reported for active duty March 28, 1945. She was recently stationed in Gulfport, Miss.

Exports of rice from Siam to this country have been held up pending satisfactory agreement on prices and exchange rates. WHY WASTE WHILE OTHERS WANT? WHY NOT GIVE? July 21-27 has been proclaimed as National Farm Safety Week.

Candidate For Mexican Presidency



MEXICO CITY, MEXICO—Offering the people of Mexico a platform calling for a greatly improved standard of living, closer relations with the United States, and industrialization of the country, Miguel Aleman is winding up his campaign for the Mexican presidency. Aleman is the administration candidate. During the regime of Manuel Avila Camacho he served as secretary of the Interior and head of the cabinet. Observers predict his overwhelming election on July 7. His only opponent is Raul Padilla, Governor Coahuila. Aleman is shown with former Aleman of their Mother the former.