

Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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KENANSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

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No. 5

Muddy Creek Church Hearing Be Held County Court On Monday February 14th.

A disagreement over who would be pastor of the Muddy Creek Primitive Baptist Church, near Chingapin, resulted in the exclusion of several members and the placing of "No Trespassing" signs on the doors of the church and trees about the grounds. On Sunday morning, Jan. 16, several of the "excluded members" came to the church and insisted on holding services after being forbidden to enter the church by the Secretary, C. E. Fountain, and other members in good standing. Entrance to the church at this time was gained by merely unlocking the door, entering the church where the "excluded members" held services. Later warrants were issued for the following seven persons: Bland Lanier, his son, Gordon Lanier, David Fountain, Willam Brown, the preacher; Ruffin Edwards, Eugene Shepard and Clayton Nethercutt, who it is understood, never was a member of the church. The above were charged with "Breaking and entering and forcible trespass." In addition to the above, Gordon Lanier was also charged with "Assault with a deadly weapon."

At a hearing held in Kenansville before Justice of the Peace William Dail, of Muddy Creek Township, on Friday night, Jan. 19, evidence was offered which resulted in Gordon Lanier being found guilty of "Simple Assault" on Tracy (?) Edwards. Gordon Lanier gave notice of appeal from this verdict to the County Court.

He was also held in bail for County Court on the charge of "Forcible Trespass", the "breaking and entering" charges on all the defendants were eliminated when "No Probable Cause" was rendered by the Court. Justice of the Peace Dail found "probable cause" against all defendants on the charge of "Forcible Trespass" and they were bound over to County Court under bond.

It has been erroneously reported in certain newspapers that there was a "lively melee" with flailing and scuffling, and "somebody got hurt but not too bad." This and other statements were reported as having been made by Sheriff Ralph J. Jones. Sheriff Jones has informed this writer that he has made no such statements and has not at any time given any information to any reporter or newspaper concerning this affair.

From evidence offered at the hearing before Justice Dail, the defendant Gordon Lanier struck Tracy (?) Edwards two or three times with his fists. No others were involved in any fighting.

The case will be heard before Judge Robert L. West in County Court Monday, February 14th. A special venire of fifty jurors have been ordered drawn from north of Kenansville - Pink Hill highway which includes Albertson, Glisson, Wolfscape, Warsaw, Faison and Calypso Townships.

Fraternity Honors Warsaw Boy

Chapel Hill, Jan. 30.—Members of Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity at the University of North Carolina have dedicated a scholarship cup to the memory of their brother, Sidney P. Brooks, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Brooks, and student from Warsaw who was killed in an automobile accident in Raleigh last spring. The announcement of the establishment of the cup was made at a ceremonial held in Chapel Hill Sunday, January 23, 1949 and was attended by members of young Brooks' family.

Dean of Awards Ernest L. Mackie of the University presented the Phi Beta Kappa Key, which Brooks had earned in his final quarter at the University, to Brooks' sister, Mrs. Marshall Solomon, of Richmond, Va. Brooks was killed on his way home from the University following final examinations last June.

Dave Arner, of Wilson, University alumnus and former member of TEP fraternity, opened the ceremonies with an eulogy of Brooks. Dean Mackie then gave a summary of Brooks' grades, none of which were below a "B", and presented the Phi Beta Kappa Key which Brooks had been awarded posthumously in the official ceremonies held last quarter.

As Brooks was known for his scholarship, his fraternity brothers decided a scholarship cup would be the best way in which to honor him. The present cup, awarded annually to the member of the fraternity earning the best grades, was retired, and the Omega Scholarship award in memory of Sidney P. Brooks will now be given to the member who holds the highest scholastic record throughout the year.

Simmons - Mewborn Post Gives \$57.00 To "March Of Dimes"

The Simmons, Mewborn, Turner Post No. 379, American Legion, located at Maxwell's Mill, gave \$57.00 of the entire proceeds from one of its Friday night dances, to the 1949 March of Dimes, according to Com-

mander Charles Thompson. The post has 86 members and although it is one of the younger posts in this section, it has an enviable record of community achievement, according to district leaders.

Warsaw To Promote Rat Eradication

The townfolk of Warsaw are urgently asked to cooperate in the forthcoming rat killing campaign. Ross F. Wadkins, high school agricultural teacher, has graciously consented to order the Red Squill Rat Poison in wholesale quantities. Each family or property owner is asked to contribute \$1.00 by Feb. 15, and Mr. Wadkins will order the poison. Then when the material arrives the public will be notified and each family will distribute the poison on their grounds. The entire

community is asked to participate in this absolute necessary program and rid the town and community of the rodents. It will be necessary for cooperation or else small quantities put out in different parts of town will not rid the entire town.

Warsaw people contact Mr. Wadkins at once so he might order the poison at a saving and everyone receive and distribute the poison at the same time and rid Warsaw of the pests.

Duplin Scouters Hold Their Annual Meet

Mr. J. C. Thompson of Warsaw was elected Chairman of the Duplin District of the Tuscarora Council at the Annual Scouters' Banquet in Warsaw Wednesday night, Jan. 26. Mr. Roy Carter of Wallace was elected Vice Chairman and Sheriff Ralph Jones was elected District Commissioner. These positions were presented by Mr. Roy Carter of Faison, Chairman

Mr. Boyers is the new Scout Executive for Tuscarora Council. He reported on the scout membership for Duplin County and challenged the adults of the district to help bring more boys into the movement. The need for trained leadership was emphasized.

The banquet was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. This portion of the program was led by two Scouts in uniform, Edward Livesey and Charles King, and two Cub Scouts, Aubrey Pope and N. H. Carter, all of Wallace. The invocation was given by Rev. R. L. Crossno of Warsaw.

Lee Brown, Scoutmaster of Troop 20, Warsaw, welcomed the 88 people in attendance. Rev. J. G. Morrison, Scoutmaster of Troop 47, Kenansville, responded for the



DUPLIN GROUP PLANS — The Duplin County Historical Association, Inc., in a meeting of interested citizens from every section of the county, agreed to go ahead with plans to produce an elaborate historical pageant next fall commemorating the county's 200 years of existence.

In the above picture, seated are Sam Byrd, who will write and direct the pageant, and Mrs. J. D. Sandlin, Jr., of Beulaville, secretary of the association. Standing, left to right, John Sikes, Wallace, publisher

chairman of the production, Gilbert Alphin, Jr., Duplin Tax Collector and President of the Association, and M. F. Allen, local banker and Treasurer of the Association. — Staff photo by Charles Craft and engraving by Cletus Brock.

8 To 10 Years On Arson Charge

Cameron A. Warrick, Duplin County white man of Wolfscape Township, was sentenced to not less than 8 nor more than 10 years in State Prison after entering a plea of Nolo Contendere to a charge of Arson, in Superior Court here today. C. A. Warrick, Sr. father of Cameron, who was to be tried on the same charge entered a plea of "Not Guilty" through attorneys J. Faison Thompson of Goldsboro, and N. B. Boney of Kenansville, who represented both father and son. Senator Rivers D. Johnson of Warsaw, Acting Solicitor, then advised the court that he doubted the State could produce sufficient evidence to convict C. A. Warrick, Sr., and asked that he be allowed to take a "Nol Prose" in that case. Later after Cameron Warrick had been sentenced - the State requested that a nol prose be taken in the case against Marshall Hughes, young white man of Mount Olive, who was under indictment on the same charge and who had testified that he was with Cameron Warrick when the house was burned and saw him, Cameron, pour kerosene over the bed and bed clothes in one of the rooms of the house and on the floor and walls and throw a lighted newspaper into the room. Hughes also testified that he tried to stop Cameron and tried to put the fire out and that Cameron told him "Let it all go to hell."

The court actions of today grew out of the burning on Dec. 30, 1948 of a farm house owned by W. A. Wadsworth and occupied by the Warricks and Marshall Hughes, who was working for them. From evidence produced at the Magistrate's hearing shortly after the

arrest of Cameron Warrick and Marshall Hughes, Mr. Wadsworth bought the house and farm from C. A. Warrick, Sr., about the middle of November, 1948 and Mr. Warrick agreed to move out of the house before Christmas. When he failed to do this Mr. Wadsworth went to see him and asked when he was going to move - Mr. Warrick told Mr. Wadsworth that he would move when he got ready, that he was in no hurry. Mr. Wadsworth then instituted ejection proceedings against Mr. Warrick and the hearing on this matter was set for the day following the burning of the house. Evidence today was to the effect that Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Warrick, Sr., with two young children of Cameron Warrick, had been taken early in the evening of the night the house was burned, by Cameron Warrick to the home of their daughter in Dobbersville where they spent the night. Testimony was also offered to show that the Warrick furniture in the house was insured and that the Warrick car, which was also burned at this time, was insured.

Mr. Boney, for the defense, told the court that Cameron Warrick was separated from his wife two years ago and had custody of their two young children; that about the time of the separation he began to drink heavily and regularly and that this continued heavy drinking had so affected his mind as to make him irresponsible for his actions.

Judge J. Paul Frizzelle told the defendant that he was taking this into consideration, that had he not done so the sentence would have been much more severe.

County Agent's Office
L. F. WEEKS

Sweet Potato Meeting
Mr. H. M. Covington, Extension Horticulturist, working with sweet potatoes will be in Duplin County for two meetings next Tuesday, Feb. 8. The first meeting will be held in the Agricultural Building in Kenansville, starting at 2:45 p.m. Another meeting will be held in Rose Hill High School Tuesday, Feb. 8, at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Covington will discuss all phases of sweet potato production, including sources of disease free seed stock, proper methods of bedding, fertilization, etc. Every person interested in growing improved quality of sweet potatoes should attend these meetings.

Community Meetings:
Attention is again called to the series of community meetings now being held throughout the county. At these meetings, various subjects of current interest are discussed by various agricultural leaders in the county. Pictures are being shown illustrating tobacco diseases, improved permanent pastures, corn production, etc. Other timely subjects such as Better Farming for Better Living, changes in the triple A, Conservation Program and current activities of your Farm Bureau Organization will also be discussed.

Warsaw City Hall In Operation

Warsaw's new, modern, and attractive Town Hall was officially opened Tuesday.

Mrs. Dorcas B. Rogers, Town Clerk, was the official greeter to the many people who dropped by to look the building over. Her office, clean and sparkling, is located on the left of the entrance hall, and she was beaming with pride and happiness to be moved and in a permanent office.

The imposing building is a complement to the town of Warsaw. It is compact, and every inch of space is utilized. The Police Department and the Highway Patrol will see the office to the right of the entrance hall, running the length of the building, with entrances to the assembly hall, the Mayor's office, the four jail cells, two for white prisoners and two for colored prisoners, the fire department, a storage room, and another room which is not yet assigned.

Town Officials are Mayor A. J. Jenkins and Commissioners A. L. Cavemugh, B. C. Sheffield, Jr., F. J. Strickland, J. M. West and S. H. Britt.

Judge J. Paul Frizzelle Presides At Duplin Criminal Court Here

Kenansville, N. C. January 31st, 1949
The January Term of Duplin Superior Criminal Court opened today at Kenansville with Judge J. Paul Frizzelle, of Snow Hill, presiding. In the absence of Solicitor J. Abner Barker, of Roseboro, who is ill, Senator Rivers D. Johnson, of Warsaw, acted as prosecutor.

In his deliberate and impressive charge to the Grand Jury, Judge Frizzelle especially called their attention to the fact that the oath administered to them was the most "comprehensive, significant and solemn" of oaths and directed them to have this oath either recited or read to them after they retired to their room that they might better understand its significance before embarking on their duties as Grand Jurors. He admonished them to look well to their duty as grand jurors as it was a most important one.

The rest of the day was taken up with cases where the defendants wished to enter pleas of guilty. One such case was that of L. P. Hollingsworth, 17 year old Negro of Pensacola, Fla. who was charged

with breaking and entering. From evidence presented it appears that Hollingsworth came to North Carolina with a circus and remained to find himself in jail. After some consideration Judge Frizzelle asked the colored people in the court room if they would be willing to contribute money to send the boy back to his home in Florida. A collection was taken up among the colored people which amounted to \$20.35. This not being sufficient, white people contributed \$13.65 to make a total of \$34.00. Judge Frizzelle then sentenced Hollingsworth to two years in the common jail assigned to work the roads; sentence suspended upon condition that Hollingsworth return to his sister's home in Florida and remain there and not return to North Carolina for a period of ten years. In the opinion of this writer the Court is to be commended for the just, reasonable and sensible manner in which the case was disposed of. The letter of the law is not always the answer -- sometimes the spirit of the law better accomplishes its purpose.

"The Story Of Duplin" Be Given Sept. 22, 23, 24

The pageant committee of Duplin County met here Saturday night and set the dates for the event for Sept. 22-23-24. Representatives of every community in the county were present.

Sam Byrd, nationally known playwright and producer of several Broadway hits, who will direct the pageant, was present and outlined his plans.

The title of the pageant, "The Duplin Story", portrays the county

of Duplin for the past 200 years. G. E. Alphin, president of the Duplin Historical Association, announced that over \$2500 has been raised so far in the campaign. Bob Grady, editor of The Duplin Times, presented a check for \$100 from Grover Maxwell of August, Ga.

Checks were also received from Tom and James Kenan of Atlanta. Other checks are expected to be received from other members of the Kenan family.

EDITORIAL

There have been, apparently, erroneous reports concerning the Muddy Creek Baptist Church.

The following letter was written by the Clerk of the Church:

News that's destructive is not particularly good for any of us. We all make mistakes. Here is the letter:

To The Editor:
It is indeed regrettable that an erroneous report about Muddy Creek Primitive Baptist Church, is being given such wide publicity. The Church is one of the oldest and most conservative in all the countryside.

Muddy Creek Church has only 46 members and there are 10 ex-members.

It is true that there has been some trouble between the two groups of people. But no weapons of any kind were used by the church members on the Sunday mentioned in the false report, or at any other time. One sympathizer on the ex-member side got over enthusiastic but was restrained.

The trouble arose over use of the church and because someone had been tearing down "no trespassing" signs and someone broke into the church on Saturday night, and took the new locks off the church doors.

Warrants were issued against six men for forcible trespass. They were tried in magistrate's court and found guilty of trespass and simple assault. The case was sent to county court.

Signed
C. E. Fountain,
Clerk.

Grand Jury Reports

The report of the Grand Jury for the Term of Superior Court which ended here today shows that they

considered 17 bills, returning 12 True Bills and five "not true". That they inspected County Buildings, School Buildings and School Buses. That while they found all of the school buses in excellent condition, this was not true as to all of the school buildings.

Of the following schools the report had this to say:

Beulaville Colored School - We recommend an additional bus. Attendance less than 50% due to lack of transportation.

Potters Hill School White - We found toilet conditions unsanitary; 180 pupils and only four toilets. Toilets full and overflowing. Water backs up from toilets to school building. 180 pupils drinking from one pump (County School Superintendent O. P. Johnson, advises that work on the installation of new toilets and water works for this school was to have begun last Monday, but will start tomorrow).

Kenansville White School - Building needs repair. Plaster falling on stairway.

Calypso Colored School - Building needs repair and is also overcrowded.

Wallace White School - We found buses in good repair, but found No. 61 overcrowded with 75 students and No. 1 overcrowded with 65 students. Small children have no seats. Recommend new bus to relieve this situation.

Rose Hill Colored School - Crowded. Recommend more room. Recommend fence along highway on school ground. The main building is only 75 feet from paved highway and the high school only 21 feet from highway. Playgrounds very limited.

In a supplemental report the Grand Jury made this recommendation:

We, the Grand Jury of Duplin County, do recommend to the Legislature the passage of a bill appropriating the sum of fifty million dollars for school building purposes. The report was signed by Marvin Bradshaw, Foreman.

Governor Scott Heads Cancer Drive

Governor Scott has accepted the appointment as honorary chairman of the American Cancer Society's April fund-raising campaign in North Carolina. It has been announced, Mr. E. Y. Floyd, of Raleigh, will work with Mr. Scott as active chairman.

Quoting the Governor, "It is a distinct pleasure to accept the post of honorary chairman and to work with Mr. Floyd and his associates in the April fund-raising of the American Cancer Society."