

# Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin.

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## School Board Allocates Over 1-2 Million For Schools

### EDITORIAL

#### DUPLIN SCHOOLS

The Duplin County Board of Education, in session last Thursday, allocated over one half million dollars to Duplin's schools, both colored and white. In reporting their action to the press they asked the Duplin Times to comment editorially on their work.

Duplin is fortunate in receiving a half-million dollars for school construction out of the state bond levy. But let's not kid ourselves into thinking this is going to relieve our problem. Every white school is overcrowded. Most of the present buildings are in fair shape but far from what they should be. It is virtually impossible to give our students and graduates what they are entitled to with present facilities. We are talking about our white schools.

Now - our Negro schools. I don't believe it is necessary to go into the short-comings of our Negro schools. There isn't actually a first class Negro high school in the county. Some are good but far behind the white. The day has passed when educational opportunities for Negroes can be denied. They must be given an equal chance. Facing that problem I think anyone will understand that the bulk of this half-million dollars must go for Negro education in Duplin County. The schedule worked out by the Board is far from desirable but it will manage to bridge a gap and maybe hold us until something better can be done.

Now what is this something better? We all feel like we are carrying all the tax load we can. The time is not so far away when a large scale expansion program must take place for the white schools. We hate to think about further consolidation. Most of us were floored and flabbergasted when consolidation was first thought of. "It will destroy our community life" we hollered. Well what did it destroy? Nothing but the one room schoolhouse. I don't think anyone would approve doing away with the present consolidation set-up and going back to the one room school.

What can we look forward to? We might as well begin to get used to the idea that further consolidation of white schools in Duplin is not far in the offing. Unless something can be done in time to forestall it our predictions are that the schools at Rose Hill, Magnolia, Calypso and possibly Faison are going to be done away with. And maybe Chinquapin and Grady.

Not only are we facing further consolidation but continually raising of standards in public schools, brought about by higher standards in colleges, is making it harder for the graduates to take their places along with graduates of city systems. Library facilities, science laboratories, athletic facilities, etc., must be expanded. The cost is almost prohibitive to expand to the necessary point in each school as they are set up today.

We call your attention to our editorial a few months ago advocating a senior high school for Duplin County. If this could be worked out it might be the means of saving some of our present schools. If the 11th and 12th grades of each school were consolidated into one senior high the remainder of the schools could operate as a junior high on a much better basis than they operate today. Graduates of that senior high would be equipped to compete with the best in the state and those graduates who do not care to attend college will be better equipped to go out in life and make his or her own way.

This is not just a dream or a passing fancy. We are facing cold realities as the figures in the half million dollar allotment reveal. Study those figures. Visit our schools, both white and colored, and particularly the colored. Look at the picture from a county-wide standpoint and not from the viewpoint of any one community. It matters not so much from which school the child graduates. The thing of importance is that the school offers what the student and graduate needs.

It seems to me that we are amply warned. Why not get arned and do something about it before it is too late? When I say too late, I mean too late to conserve on the pocketbook. It won't be too late to make changes when the 11th hour comes but they will be mighty expensive changes.

J. R. GRADY.



Scene of Auto-Train Accident—The automobile of Granger Martin lies in the railroad drainage ditch near Calypso where it landed on Tuesday of last week after being struck by ACL train No. 49. Mrs.

Dorothy M. Davis and Mrs. Annette M. Sutton, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Martin, and their three children, Dorothy and Catherine Davis and Tommie Sutton, were riding in the car. All but Catherine

were out of the auto when the train struck, and she was injured least. Most seriously hurt when the train knocked the car against them were Mrs. Davis and daughter, Dorothy. (Photo by Cletus Brock)

### Warsaw Man Will Preside Over Meeting Southeastern Teachers

The twenty-seventh annual convention of the Southeastern District of the North Carolina Education Association will be held in Wilmington, North Carolina, on Friday, November 4, according to a recent announcement by District President J. F. Harmon of Warsaw. More than 1,000 educators from the following thirteen counties which comprise the Southeastern District are expected to attend the convention: Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, Hoke, Jones, New Hanover, Onslow, Pender, Robeson, Sampson, and Scotland.

District President Harmon, Vice President E. C. Sipe of Clinton, and Secretary M. G. Isley of Whiteville have planned a full program for the convention.

The convention will begin with a luncheon of all North Carolina Education Association local unit presidents scheduled for 12:00 noon at the Friendly Cafeteria. The general session for all teachers and administrators will be held in the auditorium of New Hanover High School at 2:00 p.m. For this session the Reverend Charles A. Maddy of Wilmington will deliver the invocation and Mrs. A. D. Wood of Duplin County will lead the group singing. Superintendent H. M. Roland of Wilmington and New Hanover County will welcome the educators and State Superintendent Clyde A. Erwin will bring official greetings. The featured speaker for this general session is L. E. Parmenter, Executive Manager of the National School Service Institute, Chicago. Mr. Parmenter will be introduced by NCEA President, Mrs. Lucille Allen, of Hendersonville. The topic of her address is "The Art of Public Relations."

At the conclusion of this general session the new district officers will be introduced at the convention. They are: President, Superintendent E. C. Sipe of Clinton; Vice President, M. G. Isley of Whiteville; and Secretary, Mattie Belle Rogers of Fayetteville.

The four major divisions of the Association have scheduled the following meetings: The Division of Classroom Teachers, a luncheon meeting at 12:30 in the Crystal Restaurant, a business meeting at 4:45 in the high school auditorium, and a dinner meeting at 6:55 in the high school cafeteria. The Division of Superintendents will meet at 3:45 and at 6:00. The Division of Principals will join the Superintendents at the 6:00 meeting. The Higher Education Division will meet at 3:45.

All departmental and subject matter groups will hold their sessions at 3:45 p.m. A number of well known educators will appear before these various groups. Emma Lawson of Wilmington, Mary Willock of Camp Lejeune, and Mary E. Williams of Woman's College, of Greensboro, will appear on the program for teachers of art. Dr. Richard Weaver, Executive Secretary of the Education-Use Education

#### J. F. HARMON

President Southeastern Dist. NCEA Social Studies on the topic, "Democratic Action-Centered Education." District Principals will hear E. M. Wells of Seven Springs and the Elementary Principals have chosen J. E. Miller as their speaker. Dr. Dorothy McCusky of Chapel Hill will address the elementary teachers and Mrs. Harry Mintz and Shannon Morton will speak to the teachers of English. Professor Hugo Giduz of Chapel Hill will appear before the teachers of foreign language.

For the geography teachers John Stoneham and Albert T. Spurlock will discuss "New Geography Textbooks." Dr. Bertlyn Bosley of the State Board of Health will be the speaker for the home economics group and Dr. E. C. Mumford of State College, Raleigh, will address the teachers of mathematics. The music teachers will hear C. W. Greer, of Silver Burdett Company and the science teachers will enjoy an illustrated lecture by Dr. B. W. Wells of North Carolina State College. Superintendent A. B. Gibson of Laurinburg will appear before the vocational guidance group and Mrs. Janie Simmerman of Fayetteville will lead a panel discussion on "Guidance Practices at Work."

### Law Finally Gets Duplin Negro

Eventually the law will get you, or so thinks Matt Vann, Warsaw Negro who has been able to dodge it for the past four years. Van is wanted in Duplin County for the murder of McKinley Williams, another Negro, during a card game in Warsaw four years ago. Sheriff Jones was coroner at the time and he says there were eyewitnesses to the shooting. He said Williams lived long enough to identify the killer. The case was turned over to the F.B.I. about two and a half years ago.

Vann has been traced by the FBI for some time, his trail led them to Chicago, Detroit, Canada and finally to New York where he was placed under arrest. Extradition papers are being drawn and Sheriff Jones thinks Vann will be in the county in a few days.

### Memorial Services At Legion Post

The Simmons, Turner, Mewborn Post, American Legion, will hold a memorial service at the legion hut on Maxwell Mill pond Armistice Day at eleven o'clock. Jesse Jones of Kinston and others are scheduled to take part on the program. The public is invited to attend and bring a basket.

### Armistice Plans Are Moving Along

The 1949 edition of Warsaw's annual Armistice Celebration is going into high gear. Last stage preparations are shaping up. The Times was hoping to publish pictures of all contestants in the Beauty Contest but only a few have been received so none will be published until after the Queen is crowned Armistice night during the dance.

The parade committee reports that progress is being made in their work and at the present writing at least ten floats are assured and others are expected to take part. It promises to be the largest and most attractive parade in Warsaw in several years.

The Duplin Times will issue its annual Armistice edition on Wednesday of next week when all information you want will be published. Watch for next week's paper.

North Carolina farmers grew a total of 390,000 acres of oats for grain in 1946.

### Negro Schools Get \$406,075; White Schools Given \$141,225

The Duplin County Board of Education, in special session here last Thursday, allotted the \$547,225 Duplin Schools received from the State \$50 million bond issue to the most needed projects. In the final breakdown of demands and figures, it was found that the Negro schools in the county walked away with the bulk of the cash.

Working with the Board members was architect Leslie Boney of Wilmington who had drawn plans of the various school projects. The following letter was released Friday by Superintendent Johnson:

"The County Board of Education met on October 27 to make final allocation of the State Funds which are soon to become available for Schoolhouse construction. "Duplin County will receive approximately \$550,000, for this purpose.

"The Board of Education has for several months made a careful and detailed study of the needs of the county. Dr. Phillips and Dr. Rosentangle of the University of North Carolina came to the county in the Spring and made a survey recommending certain improvements. Their findings were given careful scrutiny by the county officials.

"It is recognized by the Board that enough money is not available to make all of the needed improvements. Some very necessary improvements cannot be made now because a sufficient amount of money is not available.

"After consulting with its architect

Mr. Leslie N. Boney, and with the State Board of Education, it was decided to allocate the funds as follows:

- Chinquapin White - 8 rooms \$59,850.00;
  - B. F. Grady White - 6 rooms and Cafeteria \$58,800.00;
  - Warsaw Colored - Complete present building \$81,850.00;
  - Branch Colored - Complete present building \$52,500.00;
  - Charity Colored - New area high school building \$149,100.00;
  - Rose Hill White - Cafeteria \$10,000.00;
  - Warsaw White - Cafeteria \$10,000.00;
  - Teachey - Remodel for negro elementary school \$12,900.00;
  - Faison Colored - New elementary School \$100,025.00. Total \$547,225.
- "The Board of Education has known for several years that something in a substantial way had to be done for the schools of our negro population. Leading citizens of both races have constantly spoken in behalf of better school facilities for negroes. Realizing that the need is so acute, the Board of Education is allotting a considerable portion of this appropriation to our negro schools. Assurances have come from the leaders of both races that the needs of our negro schools should receive special consideration.

"This allocation of funds is an effort to meet the most urgent needs of all the children of all the people."

#### Guilty Or Not Guilty?

Judge Robert L. West, presiding over County Court here Friday was confronted with a new wrinkle.

John B. Houston and Doshie Houston, his wife, both Negroes, were on trial for possession of one gallon of non-tax paid whiskey.

As the case was proceeding and apparently going against them, James Arthur Whitfield, Negro, a spectator in the court room, arose, walked down to the bar, addressed the court, and claimed the liquor was his.

He was not connected with the case in any way. Judge West not crossed the case against the defendants and sentenced James Whitfield, against whom no charges had been made, to 90 days in jail, suspended for one year, fined \$50 and costs.

### CORRECTION - - -

Last week in giving the account of the Duplin Square Dancers winning the second place in the State Contest at the State Fair we failed to mention that Kenansville was represented in the group. Our apologies to Les Williams, Miss Margaret Williams, Clarence and Mrs. Clarence Murphy. They were very much in the dance.

### Red Cross Nurse Conducting Classes

Miss Angela Futch of Wilmington, Registered Red Cross Nurse, is now in Duplin where she will spend six weeks working with Junior Red Cross projects. She is holding nursing classes in three schools, Kenansville, colored, Branch, Jr., High colored and Kenansville white. While in Duplin she is staying at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Quinn in Kenansville.

### First Frost

The first frost of the season struck Duplin Wednesday morning. Early risers report a fairly heavy frost. No ice was reported.

### Turkey Supper

The Eastern Star Chapter No. 215 of Kenansville is giving a turkey supper Saturday evening, Nov. 5 from 5 til 8 o'clock. Plates will be \$1.25 each. Pre-school children, 75c each.

The State's strawberry growers will have about 2,500 acres for harvest in 1950.

### Caution Drivers

Patrolman Whitaker reports that the newly resurfaced road 117 from Mt. Olive to Warsaw seems to be unusually slippery during wet weather and the section between Calypso and the Warsaw County line is

### NOTICE

The Times will issue on Wednesday of next week. All news announcements are asked to get their news to us not later than Tuesday noon. Advance



The James Kenan Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, met last week and elected officers for the new year. See story on the Warsaw page. The picture above shows members of the club attending the meeting. Other members

right are: Mrs. Claude Best, vice-pres; Mrs. J. W. Farrior, registrar; Mrs. L. B. Hule, treas; Mary A. Blackmore, historian; Mrs. R. L. West, retiring pres; Mrs. C. A. Wolack, Chaplain; Mrs. H. L. Stevens, state registrar; Mrs. C. P. Cannon, member of group.

ton, Mrs. F. A. Baars, Miss Eula Powell, Mrs. Kathleen Snyder, Mrs. J. J. West, Mrs. J. C. Brock, Mrs. Mills Hodges, Mrs. Stacy Britt; Third row: Mrs. L. S. Whittle, Mrs. N. A. Mitchell, Mrs. Paul Potter, Mrs. J. A. Rackley and Mrs. C. E. Bevers.