

# Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

VOLUME NUMBER SEVENTEEN

KENANSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

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## EDITORIAL

**HATTIE GAVIN GOES FREE AGAIN;  
IS THERE NO VALUE PLACED ON LIFE?**

Whether she is guilty of the last charge or not remains to be decided by a jury of 12 men or women. The doctors who treated Katie Mae Moore say that a recording was made of her voice on her death bed in which she accused Hattie Gavin of performing an illegal abortion. At the time Hattie was free under an \$8,000 bond having been convicted by a jury in Duplin County of performing an abortion on another Negro woman. Also at the time another charge against her for abortion was on file in the courthouse here for which she had never been tried.

Hattie is indicted but never tried; Hattie is indicted again, tried and convicted, but never sentenced and is set free under bond. Another abortion is performed while she is free, another woman dies, she is again indicted and lodged in jail without privilege of bond. While waiting the next term of court, which she is to be sentenced for the conviction and possibly tried for the third accusation her attorneys plan to go before Judge John J. Burney in Wilmington, not our local resident Judge Henry L. Stevens, and ask for a habeas corpus hearing, which is their right under the law. Judge Burney agrees to hear them.

In the meantime Solicitor Barker, who ordered her held without bond, according to reports, dies. Governor Scott appoints Walter Britt, Clinton attorney to serve out the unexpired term of Solicitor Barker. One of the first acts the new, inexperienced solicitor performs, is to agree to Hattie being set free again under a \$3,000 bond to appear at the next term of court without habeas corpus proceedings. True it's Christmas and it seems heartless to let an aged negro woman sit in jail when she could be enjoying Christmas with her family at home — and it also is true other abortions could have been performed during Christmas time. The writer is not saying they were nor is he saying Hattie is guilty of the last accusation but the last abortion, by whoever performed, resulted in a death. We don't know but reason indicates that if Hattie had been sentenced at the time of conviction she, at least, could not have performed the abortion which resulted in the death of Katie Mae Moore.

Is Duplin County to continue to let Hattie Gavin go free to do as she likes? Technically her defense attorneys are acting within their rights and in good faith with their client and so are the solicitors and judges but it seems to us that there come times when reason and horse sense may be a little stronger than legal technicalities when human life is involved. Are they playing along with Hattie just to see how many cases they can secure against her? No we don't believe this but we do believe that the people of Duplin County, white and colored, are fed up with Hattie Gavin and her kind and they feel that the security of human life among those who would patronize her likes require that she be put away, behind the bars, for life if there is a law to permit it. Freeing Hattie Gavin under bond last week was an insult to the intelligence of Duplin County.

J. R. GRADY.

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE —  
HELP FIGHT  
TB**



**ANSWER YOUR  
CHRISTMAS  
SEAL LETTER**

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO  
ANSWER  
SEAL SALE LETTERS**

Those who have forgotten or post-dated acknowledgement of their 1949 Christmas Seal letters are urged to do so in this appeal from Dr. W. W. Colwell Seal Sale Chairman for the Duplin County Tuberculosis Association.

It's true that we are accustomed to seeing Seals on packages and letters during the Christmas season, but many received for them is not always returned to the sender.

## J. A. Ferrell, Jr. Locates in County

J. A. Ferrell, Jr., son of Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Ferrell of Raleigh, has moved into the county and located on the old McGowan farm in the Pearsall neighborhood near Wesley. The farm was purchased by his father years ago when Dr. Ferrell was practicing medicine in Kenansville. His father is now with the State Health Department in Raleigh.

Mr. Ferrell for the past several years has been with the Federal Public Health Service with headquarters in Washington City. For the past three years he has been doing special TB work, his last assignment being in the state of Washington.

## Community Service New Year's Eve.

There will be a special New Year's Community Service at the Baptist Church here Saturday night, December 31st at 11 o'clock. Rev. Lauren Sharpe will preach. The public is cordially invited to attend.

## Sheriff Jones And His Deputies Are Still Giving The Bootleggers A Run For Their Liquor Here

By: EMORY SADLER

During the past two weeks Sheriff Ralph J. Jones and his deputies have played havoc with several bootlegger's holiday profits. On Monday, December 19th, they arrested Giles Hayes, Johnnie Graham and John Robert Hayes on charges of possession of non-tax paid liquor. They destroyed a still located in the farm of Mrs. Fred Baars, near Bowden.

On Tuesday, December 20th, Sheriff Jones called his bloodhounds into action to trail a negro, James Johnson, from his home to his still and back to his home where he was arrested. The still, located in the Magnolia section, and a quantity of beer was destroyed by deputies. They found a quart of beer from the still in the barn of Johnson.

On December 24th Sheriff Jones and his deputies went to a still located about three miles southeast of Mt. Olive on Fortner Carr's farm in Duplin County to destroy it, having been previously located, and had been watching in an effort to catch the owners operating it. Failing to do this and fearing that it would be moved they put dynamite in the barrels and the still and

blew it up. It made quite a noise and pieces of the barrels and still sailed high into the air and some few pieces hung in trees. As the officers left the still a small boy about ten or twelve years old met them and said "Sheriff you're shooting Christmas, ain't you? That still and them barrels sho' did go high". Sheriff Jones asked him if he knew the still was there. He told the sheriff that he did. That Ernest Bennett, Joe Hayes, Mincey Royal and Charlie James Williams had promised his grand-daddy some of the whiskey if he would let them put the still on his land. The officers then arrested Fortner Carr, the boy's grandfather, and the other men charging them with possession of a still for the manufacture of non-tax paid liquor; manufacturing non-tax paid liquor and aiding and abetting. The prisoners admitted that what the boy had told the officers was true.

All of the above were negroes and are being held in jail for County Court.

G. W. Wilson, colored, was arrested in the Magnolia section on Christmas Eve and charged with possession and transporting non-tax paid liquor. He was held for County Court.

## Lions Club Will Celebrate National Founder's Week On January Eighth

January is founder's month for Rotary International. January 13th is the birthday of the Founder, Secretary-General Melvin Jones. Lions clubs in Duplin County and throughout the nation will celebrate the founding of the organization during the month. On January 8th Drew Pearson, noted newspaper columnist and radio news analyst, will give prominent mention of Secretary-General Jones and will give Lions International a "pat on the shoulder". The week of January 8th is known as founder's week.

Lions clubs in Duplin are located in Kenansville, Warsaw, Pearson, noted newspaper columnist, Calypso and Wallace.

## Chas. S. Murphy, Duplin Native Named Counsel To President Truman Feb. 1

## Farm Income Tax Law Is Changed

Income tax time will soon roll around again for the nation's farmers.

Two important changes in laws relating to filing returns and paying tax on farm income have been made, as follows:

In past years farmers have been required to file an estimate of their income by January 15, pay on the basis of this estimate by the same date, and make final return and payment by March 15. They will still be able to do this for the current income year. If they prefer, however, they may wait until January 31, making final return and payment at that time.

Another change is that if the farmer's business year does not end on December 31, he may file his return and pay his tax any time within 31 days after the close of his business year, or he may file an estimate within 15 days and make the final return and payment any time within two and a half months.

The latter change, however, will not affect most North Carolina farmers, since a majority of them close their business year at the end of the calendar year.

Everyone whose 1949 income was more than \$600 before expenses were deducted, must file a return regardless of whether he has to pay any tax.

## Dividend Checks

M. F. Allen, Cashier of the Kenansville office announced that checks have been mailed to approximately 200 stockholders of the Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company covering the fourth quarterly dividend of 50c per share in 1949. This makes a total of \$2.00 per share paid to stockholders this year.

This dividend which aggregates \$10,000 was payable on or before December 30th to stockholders of record as of December 10, 1949.

Mr. Allen stated that the original amount of the dividend total \$10,000.

President Truman announced today that Presidential Assistant Charles S. Murphy, who worked with him on the old Senate War Investigating Committee, will succeed Clark Clifford as White House Counsel, effective February 1.

Murphy, 40, a native of Wallace, N. C., has been an administrative assistant since 1947. He was attached to the Office of the Senate Legislative Counsel from 1934 to 1946. Prior to that he practiced law in North Carolina.

Like Clifford, he is married and has three children.

Murphy, a drawing North Carolinian, was active behind-the-scenes in President Truman's climb to national prominence.

As a member of the Senate's law drafting staff, Murphy wrote the first draft of the resolution setting up the famous Truman War Investigating Committee. The committee exposures of graft and mistakes in the defense program, catapulted its chairman, then Senator Harry S. Truman, into the national spotlight.

Duke Law School got the young lawyer an appointment that led to his first Washington job—a \$2,100 spot as a legislative counselor on Capitol Hill.

It was there that he met Mr. Truman, then a relatively unknown Democratic Senator from Missouri.

## Highway Patrol Guarding Traffic

Highway Patrolmen inspected 100,133 vehicles during November in connection with a drive to remove faulty vehicles from the highways of the State.

A total of 1,389 light tickets, 6,415 equipment tickets and 3,173 warning tickets were issued.

The patrol spent 127,383 hours on duty, traveling 1,260,822 miles.

Fifty-nine persons were killed and 717 injured in 1,269 accidents investigated by the patrol.

Complaints investigated numbered 8,800. A total of 8,237 citations were handed out and 2,127 arrests were made. 548 of which were for drunk driving.

## Mamie Turner, Negro Educator, Honored



Here are some of the top educators who came to Magnolia last week to pay tribute to Mrs. M. L. Turner, who is retiring as Duplin County supervisor of elementary education after 25 years of service. Left to right, O. P. Johnson, Duplin County Supt. of Education; Dr. Clyde Erwin, State Supt. of Public Instruction; Mrs. Turner; President S. D. Williams of Elizabeth City Teachers College; President J. W. Seabrook of Fayetteville State College; and Dr. N. H. Harris, of Shaw University.



Mrs. M. L. Turner, retired supervisor of elementary education for Duplin County, is shown receiving \$1,000 in war bonds from County Superintendent O. P. Johnson. The money and other gifts were contributed by more than 121 teachers and educational workers of Duplin County. At the right looking on, is Dr. Clyde Erwin, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

## Dr. Clyde A. Erwin Speaks At Testimonial Program Honoring Mrs. Mamie Turner, Retired Jeunes Supervisor of Colored Schools in Duplin County.

By: EMORY SADLER  
A Testimonial Program held at Magnolia N. C., December 14th, honoring Mrs. Mamie L. Turner, retired Jeunes Supervisor of Negro Elementary Schools in Duplin County was attended by white and colored educators of the state and county. Among those present were Dr. Clyde A. Erwin, State Superintendent of Public Instruction; Mr. O. P. Johnson, Superintendent of Duplin County Schools, and - from Negro Colleges and Schools - President S. D. Williams of Elizabeth City State Teachers College; Dr. J. W. Seabrook, President Fayetteville State Teachers College; Dr. N. H. Harris, Director Elementary Education at Shaw University; Dr. W. A. Watson, Principal Sampson County Training School, Clinton, and many other well known colored principals and teachers from over the state and county. All were glad to pay tribute to a woman, who for twenty-five years, has labored diligently and conscientiously to raise the standards of education for her people.

"Mamie" - as she is known familiarly throughout the county - received her education at Elizabeth City State Teachers College, Elizabeth City, N. C., and Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va. Before coming to Duplin County in 1924 she taught in the public schools of Pasquotank and Bertie Counties for thirteen years. She was married in 1903 to Rev. W. A. Turner. He is now pastor of St. James A. M. E.

## Thirty Children Have Tonsils Removed Here

Thirty Duplin County children had their tonsils removed at the weekly clinic held here Wednesday of last week and of this week. Dr. O. L. Parker of Clinton did the operating. Dr. Parker said this week that it was almost miraculous the success of the local clinics so far. More than 70 children have had their tonsils removed and he has not been called back to see one. This has never happened to him before, he said. He paid high tribute to the local Health Department in the way it has been handling the clinics and the care of the patients following the operation.

Those operated on last week and this week were:

Dec. 21st - R. D. Stroud, James Earl Herring, David Pate, Judith Brinkley, Lois Pate, Betty Lou Broadhurst, Janet Swinson, Margery Pridden, Thomas Hill, Leslie Raynor Nunn, John Cottie, Janet Moore, Louise Atkinson, Hilbert Swinson and Norman Swinson.

Dec. 28th - Durwood Grady, Franklin Whaley, Douglas Bradshaw, Pansy Carter, Joseph Carter, Ray Bell, Annie K. Murphy, Dalia Marie Jones, Thomas Hardison, Annette Sander-on, Ossie Mae Knowles, Harold Barnes, Shelby Bell, Patricia Sanford, and Sammy Daughtry.

## Duplin Choir Group Meets Jan. 9th Here

The Duplin Choir will meet in the local school auditorium on January 9th at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of perfecting the organization. Officers will be elected and plans made to present an Easter Cantata in the Kenan Memorial Auditorium. Officers to be elected are a president, vice-president and secretary-treasurer and directors. The temporary choir committee is composed of Mrs. Harold Kornegay, Amos Brinson, Mrs. J. T. Gresham, R. L. K. Alderman. All choir members and those interested in the choir movement are urged to attend.

## Christmas Lighting Awards Made In Beulaville Contest

The town of Beulaville went all out for Christmas in the form of home lighting this year. The Civics Club there offered three prizes totaling \$100 for the best lighted yards. They were broken down into \$50, \$50, and \$50 each. Judges were Mrs. A. T. Outlaw, F. W. McGowan and Bob Grady of Kenansville. First prize went to J. D. and Charlton Sandlin who live in a two-apartment home. The second was won by Cecil Miller and the

## Sam Byrd Visits In Kenansville



Sam Byrd and daughter, P. Byrd, were visitors in Kenansville Thursday afternoon. They will return here Saturday morning for a round of discussions with various people concerning possibilities of giving "The Duplin Story" again in 1950.

The Duplin Times has continually been receiving inquiries from throughout the state and other states about whether or not the Pageant will be held again in 1950. Only a few days ago the State News Bureau sent an inquiry, stating they hoped it would be repeated and asked that they be notified at once when the decision was made so that they could begin publicizing it. Many have expressed the opinion that a slightly revised "Duplin Story" in 1950, given over a little longer period of time will steal the show from "The Lost Colony".

A second undertaking in 1950 will be somewhat harder in some respects than was the 1949 showing due to the fact that it will not be celebrating Duplin's 200th anniversary but everything points to an even greater success from the standpoint of attendance than was the 1949 showing.

As Miss Gertrude Carraway, noted state news writer, said "Kenansville and Duplin County now are certainly on the map because of 'The Duplin Story', and due to the fact that so few people had a chance to see it who really wanted to after they learned that Duplin really had something to offer, many feel that we are obligated to the people of North Carolina to have a 1950 production. It will be recalled that an editorial in the Kinston Free Press said it should continue showing until everybody in North Carolina had seen it or it should be recorded on film and then sent around.

It is hoped that in next week's paper we will be able to give you more information on the prospects for 1950.

## Warsaw Merchant Holding Sale

On another page in this issue will be found a page advertisement for the Strickland Department Store in Warsaw. Strickland is Warsaw's newest department store and has a good stock of all kinds of merchandise. This is their first store-wide sale and hundreds of good buys are being offered. The sale will only continue through January 7th so if you want to save money better read their ad and do your shopping early.

## Warsaw Names Edgar Williams Tax Collector

The Warsaw Town Board in a recent meeting named Edgar Williams as town tax collector. The books will be turned over to Mr. Williams the first of the year and he promises to bring in the money from those who have not paid. There are many improvements needed to be made in Warsaw during 1950 but cannot be made unless taxes are paid. Mayor G. E. Best said. The town officers are determined to go forward during the year in many things but first they must go forward with tax collections. Many changes are in the offing during the year most noticeable of course will be the widening and paving of Pine Street from the intersection of highways 117 and 21 to 117 at the Lewis filling station North of town.

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## WAN' NA PLAY?

Any Independent Basketball team interested in scheduling basketball games should contact Harold Jones, at Kenansville Drug Store.

## BLOODSHED BC SCORE

Killed Dec. 20 - 26  
Injured same dates 814  
Killed thru Dec. 26, 1948, 826  
Killed thru Dec. 26, 1948, 729  
Injured thru Dec. 26, 1948, 9477  
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