

Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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No. 11

Parole Commissioner Gives Reasons For Freeing Duplin Abortionist

The following letter was received this week from the State Commissioner of Paroles, Dr. T. C. Johnson. It speaks for itself:

March 12, 1951
Raleigh, N. C.

Mr. J. R. Grady
Editor, Duplin Times
Kenansville, N. C.

Dear Mr. Grady:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your paper dated March 9, carrying the front page story about Hattie Gavin, Mr. Essick, the Assistant Commissioner, told me upon my return to the office the other day of your visit. I regretted the fact that I was not here to talk with you personally about this matter.

The case was handled in accordance with our usual procedures, and upon what we believed was sufficient grounds for clemency. It may well be that we were too credulous, but we had no reason to question the representations that were made to us.

We assumed that here was an elderly Negro woman who could render a needed service for a distinguished public servant. We told Judge Stevens' brother that under the policies of this office, we could not parole the woman to work for the Judge. Shortly after assuming office, we issued a statement to the effect that we would permit no paroles to be employed by a state official. We explained that the only way the prisoner could become a servant of the Judge would be by having her sentence commuted to time served, and that such action we could not take except upon recommendation of the trial judge and the trial solicitor. We have rather consistently followed the policy of reducing sentences when both the trial judge and the trial solicitor so recommended. Consequently, when we received letters from Judge Burney and Solicitor Britt we acted promptly, not knowing that there would likely be any objection in the community.

Another policy of this office has been to publish at least two weeks notice of parole consideration. In the case of commutation, however, no public notice has usually been given unless our file showed protest to clemency. As you point out in your article, our file on Hattie Gavin contained only one brief newspaper story. We subscribe to a clipping service and nothing other than this had been furnished us by the clipping service.

I want to thank you for your presentation of this matter, and assure you that we will give serious consideration to strengthening our procedures.

With cordial best wishes, I am
Sincerely yours,
T. C. Johnson,
Commissioner of Paroles.

Duplin Choir Meets

The Duplin County Choir will meet Tuesday night, March 20, 1951 at 8:00 o'clock in the Kenansville school auditorium.

Sweet Potato Demonstration Meeting Held Near Kenansville This Morning

During the sweet potato producing season, there will be three sweet potato method demonstration meetings held this year on the J. H. Hines Farm, one mile from Kenansville on the Warsaw highway.

The first of these demonstrations was held today (Friday, March 16) at 9:30 A. M. Seed selection, seed treatment and bedding was demonstrated by actually going through the various steps recommended. The success in growing a good sweet potato crop largely depends on getting the crop off to a good start.

Mr. H. M. Covington, Extension

Horticulturist at State College, was at the meeting to show and discuss the approved practices of seed selection, treatment and bedding.

Sometime in May, the second demonstration meeting will be held at the same farm on Land Preparation, Fertilization, ridging, pulling plants, spacing of plants in the row, and setting plants.

In September, the third demonstration will be held on harvesting, grading and curing.

Such demonstrations will give sweet potato producers an opportunity to see all approved practices from beginning to end of the crop.

D. E. Best Funeral This Afternoon

David Earl Best, 71, died at his home in Warsaw Thursday morning at 12:30 after a period of declining health. The youngest of the five sons of John Wright and Lewellyn Stevens Best, he had lived his entire life in Warsaw where he was recognized as one of the community's leading citizens.

CONTINUED ON BACK

Quad County FHA Meets Here

The Quad County Future Home-Makers of America, with 250 delegates from Duplin, Pender, Sampson and Onslow counties met for an all day program recently in the Kenansville School. Eight 1951 officers were elected for the year. Alyce Manning of Richlands was elected president replacing Stella Herring of Warsaw who presided over the session.

Candidates for office were presented at the morning session with the election and installation in the afternoon.

Officers elected to serve for the year are: Jo Ann Britt of Warsaw, vice president; Betty Blanchard of Warsaw, secretary; Gwyn Kelly of B. F. Grady, treasurer; Peggy Jean Grady of B. F. Grady, historian; Shirley Britt of B. F. Grady, reporter; Eleanor Hattell of Swansboro and Imogene Aman of Jacksonville, song leaders.

The principal address was delivered by Dr. Leo W. Jenkins, Dean of East Carolina Teachers College at Greenville, who discussed the problems of marriage. He urged the club members to regard marriage as a practical problem and not to marry because their friends are doing so.

The opening devotional was given by Rev. Lauren Sharpe and followed by an opening message from Supt. O. P. Johnson.

Mrs. Clark D. Reid of Richlands served as club advisor. Supervisors were Misses Catherine T. Dennis and Mary Hines Leonard of Raleigh and Mabel Lacy of Greenville.

Overflow Crowd Attend Church Meet In Warsaw

The Evangelistic Crusade Rally, held at the Warsaw Baptist Church on Sunday, March 11, was attended by more than 500 Baptists representing 38 churches of the Eastern Association. The overflow crowd was cared for in classrooms by the use of an address system.

Preceding the general meeting at 3 o'clock, an informal prayer hour was held in the ladies' parlor of the church. Rev. A. L. Brown, pastor at Beulaville, had charge of this service.

Dr. J. C. Canipe, State Secretary of Evangelism of the N. C. State Convention, delivered a thought-provoking, soul-stirring message on the subject, "Christ Is The Answer," which is the theme of the Simultaneous Revivals of the Southern Baptist Convention this year. Every person present went away more conscious of his world, his state his local and his personal needs, as informed and inspired by the speaker.

Rev. Lloyd Barker of Fayetteville, led the song service. New gospel choruses were taught, many old gospel hymns sung and enjoyed. Mr. David Benny, also of Fayetteville, was pianist. Mrs. Glenn Brown of Warsaw was organist.

Thirty-three of the Association churches plan to participate in either one or two weeks' revival, March 25-April 8.

Waccamaw Applies Beulaville Branch

The Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company has applied for authority to open a branch in Beulaville, to be known as the Beulaville Branch.

A public hearing will be held in the Beulaville High School Friday, March 30th.

The bank hopes to secure the application and plans to open as soon thereafter as possible.

M. F. Allen, Jr. cashier of the Waccamaw Bank of Kenansville, released the announcement concerning the application for a branch in Beulaville.

Millie Burch Enters Finals

Miss Millie Burch enters the State Finals of the American Legion Oratorical Contest in Albemarle, N. C. tonight. Miss Burch first won the school elimination contest in Kenansville, after which she took the County Contest, emerged winner in the Pender-Duplin Contest and competed in the Divisional Contest with 21 counties represented to enter the State Finals.

Miss Burch is the first Duplin representative to ever qualify for the State Finals. She is in the 9th grade at the Kenansville School and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Burch of Kenansville.

Winners of the State Contest will advance to regional, sectional, and eventually national contest.

U. S. Army and Air Force Recruiter, Ottoway, announces that he has discontinued his Tuesday schedule at Beulaville. Until further notice he will be in Beulaville Monday afternoons. Tuesday he will be at the courthouse in Jacksonville; Warsaw, Monday mornings and Wallace Friday mornings. He no longer calls at Faison.

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

NOTE: This the 9th of a series of weekly summaries of the work of the North Carolina General Assembly of 1951. It is confined to discussions of matters of general interest and major importance.

March 10, 1951
This week the legislators spent a day at the marine base at Camp Lejeune; next Wednesday they will visit Cherry Point. To get home by April 14, and both presiding officers have said this was possible, they will have to hustle in the 29 legislative days remaining. Frayed nerves and deflated pocketbooks signal the beginning of a concentrated effort to finish the job; night and afternoon sessions are not far off.

Reapportionment of Legislative Representation
Tentative 1950 census figures setting North Carolina's population

at 4,052,027 are the basis for bills introduced on Tuesday for the purpose of reapportioning representation in the General Assembly. SB 303 calls for increasing the number of senatorial districts from 33 to 38, giving 12 districts 2 senators each. Forsyth, Guilford, and Mecklenburg would remain districts by themselves, but each would get 2 senators rather than 1. HB 528 designed to reapportion the 120 House seats would make less drastic changes; representation would remain as it now is except that the second representatives now allotted both Cabarrus and Pitt would be transferred to Alamance and Rockingham. Rep. Blackwell's HB-574, introduced Friday, proposes amending the Constitution to increase the number of senators to 60 and the number of representatives to

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CALYPSO GIRLS, county champion basketball team: Jerry Roberts, Doris Guy, Joan Grubbs, Janet Bell, Barbara Wilson, Betty Joyner, Beulah Walker, Jean Grubbs and coach H. E. Grubbs. (Photo by Daniel Lanier)



BEULAVILLE BOYS, county basketball champions: Cecil Hunter, Murphy Thigpen, Pete Weston, Eddie E. Griffin, Joe Jackson, Delano Simpson, Richard McDowell, Ronald Quinn, Ted Clark, Jerry Thigpen, Ervin Dobson and Ercel Bostic. (Photo by Daniel Lanier)

Pre-School Clinic Opens Here Wednesday; Children Be Examined

Barden Stock Yards Open

The J. J. Barden Stock Yards opened Tuesday with Warsaw's first livestock auction market. A crowd of about 2000 people attended the opening, it was reported. Much enthusiasm towards the new market was shown and owner-operator Jim J. Barden was well pleased with the reception. Over \$15,000 was paid stock-growers for hogs and cattle sold in the afternoon. Cattle brought as high as 30c and hogs 21c.

Mr. Barden is a veteran stock man and is known by all farmers in Duplin and surrounding counties. As a business man with knowledge of stock he is recognized as second to none in this section. About the opening Mr. Barden said, "I feel very grateful to the citizens in the community for showing so much interest in the sales. To those who patronize me, I'll see that they get the top price at all sales. I intend to build up a market that will be a benefit to this section."

Auction sales will be held each Tuesday afternoon beginning at one o'clock, rain or shine. The farmers may sell anything they have to offer. The new stockyards are located on highway 117 in the northern end of town.

Series Meetings Ends March 23rd

The series of meetings beginning February 28th, conducted by County Agent Lacy Weeks to inform the farmers of the farm trends in Duplin County will conclude on March 23rd.

Agent Weeks, his assistants and corps of workers are presenting a Long Range Farming Pattern that they have developed as well as such

The Pre-School Clinic in Kenansville will open Wednesday, March 21st at 1:30 p.m. for examination of pre-school children.

Parents are urged to see that their pre-school age children who will reach their 6th birthday by December 1st are present for the Clinic Examination.

The present school law states that when a child reaches his sixth birthday by October 1, he is eligible to enter the fall school term. A new bill is up before the legislature changing the date to December the first. If the new bill is passed the child can be eligible for the fall school term upon reaching his 6th year by December 1.

All children are required to take shots for the prevention of smallpox, whooping cough and diphtheria before they enter public school. A birth certificate to get in the school the first day also will be required.

If pre-school children have already received their inoculations, parents should notify the Health Department in order that they may be posted and certificates of immunization issued to them.

Certificates of both birth and immunization are necessary to enroll in the school the first day. If the child does not have these credentials he has to wait until the next school year.

Red Cross Drive

The 1951 Red Cross Drive is still going strong in Duplin with L. M. Bostic for the third consecutive time to be the first to meet and go over the quota set. He has turned in \$60 for Potters Hill section whose quota was \$65.

The drive began March 1st with the goal for the county set at \$4,976 for 1951. \$2,230 is to remain in the county and \$2,746 to go to the national fund. The national goal is \$5 million dollars.

The county has been divided into townships with a chairman for each conducting the campaign.

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Davis Reviews Star Route

S. B. Davis of Norfolk, who is in charge of Postal Transportation for this area, was in Kenansville a few days ago reviewing the proposed mail route from Kenansville to Pink Hill.

Mr. Davis told the Times we could expect in the near future the Star Route which runs from Richlands to Kenansville in the morning and returning in the afternoon to be extended to include Kenansville which should result in definite improvements in mail services on Pink Hill and Albertson routes.

As planned it is expected that the carrier will arrive in Kenansville at 7:30 A. M. and depart for Pink Hill on receipt of mail from Warsaw.

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FHA OFFICERS—Standing around their inauguration ceremony table are the eight new officers of the Quad County Future Home-Makers of America Club, which takes in Duplin, Brunswick, Onslow, and Pender counties. Elected Saturday at the annual meeting at Kenansville. They are, left to right: Eleanor Hattell, secretary; Gwyn Kelly, treasurer; Jo Ann Britt, vice-president; Jo Ann Britt, vice-president; Alyce Manning, president; Stella Herring, secretary; at Warsaw; Peggy Jean Grady, historian; at B. F. Grady; and Mabel Lacy, at Greenville.