

The Border Belt Tobacco Market is in full swing. The Eastern Bright Belt Market opens Tuesday August 21st.



Straight from the Shoulder—Right from the Heart of Duplin

Superior Court
The Board of County Commissioners will convene here Monday August 27th for a two week term. Judge Haldeman will be here instead of Judge Low. The first week will be for criminal cases and the second week for civil cases.

Sheriff Ralph Jones' Office Short \$4,000; Deputy Resigns Move Launched To Secure Hospital For Duplin County Tragedy Takes Three Lives In Duplin County In Five Days

Commissioners In Special Session Order Audit; Turned Over To Solicitor; Account Of Commissioner's Hearing

Saturday, August 4, 1951. The Board of County Commissioners met in special session in their office in Kenansville, North Carolina, at 1:00 o'clock, p. m. Present: L. P. Wells, Chairman, Dallas Jones, Arthur Kennedy, and A. P. Cates, Absent: A. C. Hall, Sr.

F. W. McGowan, County Accountant, appeared before the Board and reported that there was a shortage in cash in the Sheriff-Treasurer's office in the sum of \$3,800.00, as of June 30, 1951, and that his examination and audit still was not complete.

Mr. McGowan stated that he had a conference with Sheriff Ralph J. Jones about this shortage this morning and that Office Deputy, Charles L. Nicholson, was called into the conference by Sheriff Jones, and Deputy Nicholson stated that on about the 12th of September, 1949, he was making up bank deposits in the office and had some cash and checks on the table when he was called on the telephone by Mr. Sitterson. He stated that he covered the money with books and answered the telephone. He said the telephone call was requesting information about a prisoner in jail and that he told Mr. Sitterson that he would go to the jail to find out if the prisoner had been released. He said he went to the jail, without locking the money or without locking the office door. That he went to the jail and on the way back he remembered he had left the office without anyone in it. That he rushed back to the office and checked the deposits that he had been making up and found all of the checks were still there and that \$2,200 in cash and \$1,600 in checks were missing. He searched for the money, but did not find it. That he did not report it to Sheriff Jones or to anyone else.

Mr. McGowan said he asked him how he balanced the accounts on June 30, 1950, when the annual audit was made. Mr. Nicholson stated that he borrowed money from his brother-in-law and his brother and put all he had into the account so that it would balance at the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1950. He also stated that he had to repay the money he borrowed to put into the funds before June 30, 1950.

The following is an outline of the evidence as heard and taken by Mrs. Hilda Booth:

A HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONCERNING CASE SHORTAGE IN THE SHERIFF-TREASURER'S OFFICE—AUGUST 4, 1951

Chairman Wells questions Mr. Nicholson.

Q—Charlie do you want to make a report about the shortage of money in the Sheriff's office? Go ahead and tell exactly as it was.

A—On Monday morning, I am pretty sure it was on the 12th of September, I was in the Sheriff's office making up the deposits for the bank and I had on hand Friday evening all Saturday morning \$1,800 and \$2,200 I had made up two deposits—I had checks which amounted to \$700. There was a \$1,500 deposit in cash and \$200.00 deposit along with several deposits in checks. I had some more in the safe which I had not taken out. I was making up the deposit before Mr. Sitterson called me on the phone and I got up to answer the phone. I laid my receipt book over on the safe. He asked me some information about the prisoner in jail. I told him I would go to the jail to find out if he had been released. I went to the jail and on my way back it struck me I had left the office without anybody else in the office. I rushed back in the office and checked my deposits and found all of the checks that I had left was still there and the \$1,800 in cash and \$1,600 was missing.

I rushed out of the door and went down into the main room, white and colored, and down the hall of the courthouse looking for someone who could have taken it. I then went upstairs in the courtroom and there was several people in the courtroom including the Sheriff. Thinking in my mind I looked suspicious to me so I came back down to the office to check the deposits. I had, I opened the safe and took all the deposits out and checked them all again. Some time we get several deposits in a day and I thought it might be possible that I had made a deposit on Saturday of that cash, so then I went down to the bank and asked Mr. Allen if I had made any cash deposit on Saturday. Before I went to the bank I went to Mr. Wells' door and asked him if he had seen anybody looking for the sheriff. He said he had not seen anyone. I then took something out of the safe and took it to the bank and

Elvin Gaylor Of Magnolia Is New Student At U. S. Naval Academy

Elvin L. Gaylor, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Gaylor of Richlands avenue, Jacksonville, entered the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., on July 2 as the first man from Duplin county ever to attend the academy.

Gaylor was appointed by Congressman Graham A. Barden from Duplin County and graduated from Magnolia High school there. His family moved to Jacksonville since he finished Magnolia school in 1949. He took his examination to enter Annapolis the last April.

After graduating from Magnolia, he entered Campbell college where he graduated June of this year.

Young Gaylor was a member of the Magnolia basketball team and was named a superative in his class at Campbell.

Hunt Hardisty, son of Mr. and Mrs. Twigg Randall of Richlands also is attending the academy and has recently completed his second year.

A. Brooks Receives Rotary Club Honor

As an expression of appreciation to Mr. Abraham Brooks for his meritorious service through the years to the Rotary club and community of Warsaw as both a former Rotarian and a private citizen; and because his life in our midst has long exemplified the Rotary Ideal of "Service Above Self" in every business, civic and social relationship.

It has been moved, seconded and unanimously passed by the Warsaw Rotary club, upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors, that he be made a life-long Honorary member of the Warsaw Rotary club.

That he be extended all rights and privileges of this club, and be given a life-time subscription to The Rotarian, that he be exempted from all dues, fees and attendance requirements, and that he be welcomed as the special guest of the club at any meeting or social function of the club which he may find it convenient to attend.

50 Bed Hospital and Health Center Proposed; James Sprunt Site Offered

Duplin County is the largest county in North Carolina without hospital facilities and one of only 18 without such facilities.

There has been considerable talk in the county since the North Carolina Medical Care Commission was set up a few years ago about securing state and federal aid in building a hospital but no definite action was taken until last week when about 50 interested citizens gathered in the court house here on Thursday night to discuss the matter. Representatives from every community in the county were invited to discuss the feasibility of such an undertaking and Dr. John A. Ferrell of Raleigh, executive secretary of the Commission, attended and gave a history of the Medical Care Commission and outlined necessary steps to be taken towards securing state and federal aid. Dr. Ferrell said he was very anxious to see Duplin secure a hospital and promised 100 per cent cooperation from the commission. He said Duplin would hold a top priority on state and federal funds should the people decide to build a hospital. He also pointed out that Duplin badly needs a health center to house the program to train nurses and that the state and federal governments will participate in this also. He suggested that the two can be combined into one project. Secure sufficient land and build a health center with a hospital, a health center and a nurses home.

Costs To County
Dr. Ferrell pointed out that the state and federal governments will contribute 77.4 per cent of the cost, leaving only 22.6 per cent of the cost to be borne by the county. Discussion centered around a 25 bed hospital but after the meeting further discussions lead to a conclusion that it will be practical to start with less than 50 beds. The population of Duplin warrants at least 100 beds, the size of the Sampson County hospital, but many believed the cost would be prohibitive in the state of North Carolina can be so constructed that additions can be made later without altering the general plans.

County Auditor Faison McGowan estimated that the cost of the whole project in the state of North Carolina on a 50 bed basis, will be in the neighborhood of \$200,000 and can be financed over a period of 20 years. The increase in tax rate for this purpose would be on 8 cents on the hundred dollar valuation. On a 35 bed project it would be six cents. When he announced the figures several in the audience hollered out "what are we waiting on?"

Name Committee
The group was practically unanimous in favor of undertaking the project and the Board of County Commissioners were asked to appoint a committee to visit several hospitals in the state on this basis and to make a report and recommendations at the first Monday in September meeting. The following were named on the committee: Dr. H. W. Colwell, Wallace H. E. Latham, Rose Hill; Lee Brown, Warsaw; Rudolph Simmons, Albertson; W. F. (Bud) Miller, Beulaville, and J. O. Stokes and J. R. Grady, Kenansville.

It was announced for location.

WALTER E. BLIZZARD
Walter Bryant Blizzard, 59, farmer of the Blizzard's Cross Roads community, died at his home Wednesday at 2:40 p. m. after an illness of five months. Surviving are Mrs. Blizzard, the former Glennie Potter and two sisters, Mrs. Ora Blizzard Price and Mrs. Gertrude Blizzard Price, both of Sevier Springs. Funeral services were at the home, Thursday at 3 p. m. and burial was in the Potter cemetery in Albertson Township. Mr. Blizzard had been a member of the Free Will Baptist church for many years.

Young Girl, Two Men Killed In Tragic Accidents And Murder

Duplin County's death toll during the past five days has totalled three. The first occurring Saturday night when Willie James Wells, Negro, was fatally shot at the Log Cabin in Wallace. Sunday morning Avern W. Driver was killed on the outskirts of Warsaw in an automobile wreck and a third Monday when Caroline Rhodes died when she fell from a trailer in Warsaw.

This brings to a total four tragic deaths in the past thirty days in the county. Sally Rat Holland was the first victim of the tobacco season.

Saturday night about 9:30 at the Log Cabin in Wallace Willie James Wells, Negro, was shot and fatally wounded by Johnnie James, Negro. Wells was rushed to a Rose Hill doctor where first aid was administered and then carried to the James Walker hospital in Wilmington. He died soon after morning Wednesday.

Mr. James, Did Mr. Nicholson make any explanation how when you checked last year that it balanced?

Mr. McGowan: He said he borrowed money and put it in there.

Wells: Was anyone else present?

Mr. McGowan: Sheriff Jones.

Sheriff Jones: He said he borrowed money from his brother and brother-in-law and some of his own. He borrowed it and put it back. If I am not mistaken he named the figure that he borrowed. I think it was \$1500.00 from Mr. John Chestnut.

Mr. Wells: How did he repay the money he borrowed?

Sheriff Jones: Took some money out to repay it.

Mr. Wells: Who was his brother-in-law?

Mr. McGowan: Mr. John Chestnut's name was mentioned but I don't know if it was his brother-in-law. He said he borrowed and raised and scraped all he could before June 30, 1950.

Mr. McGowan: How were we able to check out on June 30th if it happened in September?

Sheriff Jones: He borrowed money from his brother-in-law and brother and all he could rake and scrape, I heard Mr. Chestnut's name mentioned.

Mr. Wells: Sheriff, under the circumstances, don't you believe we should have an audit?

Sheriff Jones: I will never feel right until the thing is in its entirety audited, I believe every person in the courthouse would feel better if it is audited. It would give me new faith, not that I have lost mine, I am shocked.

Mr. Wells: It was a shock to you Saturday morning?

Sheriff Jones: Yes, I am a man that will speak anything that I think. When Mr. McGowan quoted those figures to me I thought I have never heard such erroneous stuff. When Mr. McGowan mentioned those figures to me I thought "Oh Hell" these are some more political figures. I am telling the truth I called Rivers Johnson, Walter Stevens and Gene Thompson. I just don't know what I was setting them for but I had to call somebody. I said go and talk to Nick, I don't know a thing in the world. Follows, our county in the solid ring is standing in the balance of the most dangerous propaganda of any place I have ever read of in the newspaper. I have received messages on the square, and I couldn't sleep last night for thinking of it.

Mr. Wells: Would it not be best to have an audit?

Sheriff Jones: Yes.

Sheriff Jones: We need to be sure we have the truth. I am going to have the truth and the truth and the truth.

Dairy Meet

By L. F. WEEKS
There has been several questions to come up recently about the possibilities of dairying in Duplin county. Such questions as the planning the Dairy, Financing the Dairy, Milk Routes, Feeding and Management of the Herd, and sources of foundation cows have been asked.

We have arranged for Mr. R. R. Rich, Extension Dairy Fieldman, to meet with the dairymen and those interested in going into dairying in Duplin County, next Monday night, August 12, at 8:00 p. m. in the club room of the Warsaw cafe. At this meeting, we will discuss dairying in general.

Mr. A. M. Benton, Farm Home Administration Supervisor will be with us to discuss the part that his organization can play in financing dairymen with establishing this enterprise.

Everyone in Duplin County now milking cows, and those interested in becoming dairymen in the future are especially invited to this meeting.

Mother Judge Stevens Dies

Mrs. Henry L. Stevens, mother of Judge Henry L. Stevens, Jr., died here Wednesday at 12:45 a. m. at the home of Judge Stevens. Funeral services were held Thursday at 4 p. m. at Warsaw Presbyterian church conducted by Rev. Jerry M. Newbold. Burial was in the family plot in Pinecrest cemetery there.

Mrs. Stevens died following a heart ailment.

She was born on a plantation in Pender County, June 19, 1868, daughter of Sarah Victoria Register Walker and Edward DeCain Walker. On Dec. 22, 1892, she was married to Henry L. Stevens. Since her marriage she had lived in Warsaw.

She was one of the oldest members of Warsaw Presbyterian church and taught Sunday school there for 40 years. She organized the woman's club in Duplin County during the first World War she engaged in Red Cross work and promoted war bond drives throughout the county.

Surviving in addition to Judge Stevens is another son, E. Walker Stevens, also of Warsaw, two sisters, Mrs. D. L. Woodward of Warsaw, Mrs. D. W. Boone of Charleston, S. C., one brother, Dr. Duncan D. Walker of Macon, Ga., three grandchildren.

Duplin Red Cross Asked To Double Goal Disaster Fund Appeal; \$850 Asked

The Duplin County Red Cross chapter has been asked to double the minimum goals assigned to them earlier in the Disaster Fund Appeal. The Duplin County chapter has been asked to double the minimum goals assigned to them earlier in the Disaster Fund Appeal. The Duplin County chapter has been asked to double the minimum goals assigned to them earlier in the Disaster Fund Appeal.

Universalist Leader Dies In Rocky Mt.

ROCKY MOUNT, Aug. 7 — The Rev. W. B. Skeels, 74, a Universalist minister for 49 years, died at his home here early Tuesday afternoon after a long illness. Death was attributed to a heart condition.

The Rev. Mr. Skeels retired in 1945 after serving as pastor of the First Universalist church in Rocky Mount for 31 years. He was a native of Warsaw, N. Y. in Rocky Mount he had served as president of the Ministerial Association and also had been active in the Rotary club, serving as secretary of the Universalist General church Convention.

Funeral services were conducted from the First Universalist church at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. Dr. Seth R. Brooks of Washington, D. C., was in charge, assisted by Rev. A. D. Wood of the church. Interment was in Pineview cemetery.

At the time of his retirement the Rev. Mr. Skeels became associated with his wife in the operation of a kindergarten here. He also was widely known as an apologist, and his scientific study of bees made him frequently in demand as a speaker on the subject.

Surviving in addition to his wife are one son, Paul C. Skeels of Ann Arbor, Mich., who is head of the electronics department of General Motors Proving Ground at Northville, Mich., and one daughter, Mrs. E. H. Watson of Eckert, Colo.

Small Boy Swallows County Library Sand Spur Doing OK Closed; Vacation

Charles Grady, small son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grady of Wolfscrap Township, is apparently recovering from a bout with a sand spur which he drew into his windpipe recently.

The little boy had gone to open a gate for some cows which his father was driving from the pasture. The sand spur, which his father he had swallowed the spur.

He was rushed to Kingston hospital where surgeons removed it from his windpipe. Barring complication he is expected to suffer no harmful effects.

Miss Dorothy Wightman, Duplin's petite and popular librarian, is enjoying a few days vacation from her duties of serving the reading public of Duplin county during her vacation, however, she won't let her mind get away from her public. She plans to visit second hand book stores in Columbus, N. C., Raleigh and many of the Philadelphia and other cities looking to wards securing more books for the library. The library will be closed while she is away.

Construction For New Chapel To Start Jan. '52

The Branch Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints has just received word from the Presiding Bishopric's office in Salt Lake City, Utah that they have approved the construction of a new chapel.

The general church expenditure committee has appropriated \$38,000.00 as their part toward the construction of the building. The local membership will pay \$14,250.00 as their part.

Plans and specifications are now being drawn by the church architect in Salt Lake City. Plans for the building will be underway early in 1952.

L. A. Beasley In Hospital

Mr. L. A. Beasley, local attorney, is in the James Walker hospital in Wilmington where he was carried a few days ago. He is suffering stomach ailments and has been given several blood transfusions already. Reports from the family today said he was better.

Pink Hill Church Notices Are Given

Rev. D. C. Boone, pastor of the Methodist church of Pink Hill announces the regular preaching services for Sunday morning. Services will be held at Noble's Chapel at 10:00 a. m., and at Pink Hill church at 11:00 a. m.

This will be the last Sunday morning service for the summer. We would like to have as good attendance as possible. The sermon topics at both the services will be, "What Would Jesus Do in these days of trials and temptations?"

The revival services for the Pink Hill church will be conducted by the Reverend Wade Goldston beginning on October 30th. Rev. Goldston has recently been made conference evangelist. Before leaving this position with the conference, Rev. Goldston was pastor of the Denier's church in North Carolina.

Miss Hunt Goes In Sheriff's Office

Miss Helen Hunt of Magnolia, former clerk in the Tax Collector's office here has accepted a position in Sheriff Ralph Jones' office.

Birth Certificates Required At School

Principal Z. W. Frasselle announces this week that all children entering school for the first time this year must carry with them on the first day a birth certificate. All parents are requested to please take note of this.

Lester was driving the car and Mrs. Rhodes and a child or two were in the front seat with him and a Negro man in the back seat. Several children were on the trailer. The said girl's brother insisted that she sit in the back of the trailer. The child in the back of the trailer was pulled off the trailer and the child was killed. The child was pulled off the trailer and the child was killed.

Q—It is your intention to pay the money back?
A—Yes, in other words Mr. and my father are going to get the money Saturday evening.

Q—I feel like if you had gone ahead and notified Sheriff J. it would have been much better.
A—The reason I did not is because the money was left out of the safe and it was my carelessness. I don't think the office was looking after it. I was locked after I had talked on the phone. I just forgot about the money.

Q—You should have reported it.
A—I thought maybe I could have put it in another set of books. I was hoping that I would find it somewhere.

Q—The amount is less than \$4,000.
A—There has been some I have paid back.

Q—Are you keeping any separate notations to show how your deposits have been made? How much have you paid back?
A—I don't know, but I can figure it out.

Q—You could not have paid much drawing such a small salary.
A—No, I haven't got one car paid for yet either.

Q—Is there anything else you would like to add to that?
A—I believe that I told you at the time of my return there was no one there or anywhere around. I have carried it all to myself. I have told no one, my wife nor my father. I haven't slept a full night since. It is money I just carelessly let leave. I haven't taken one cent. In fact, I could not have paid any of it back other than the refund on my insurance. I don't know anything else Mr. Wells unless there is something you wish to ask me. The foregoing is a true and accurate outline of the evidence heard and taken by Mrs. Hilda Booth, at a hearing before the Board of County Commissioners on August 4, 1951.

Mr. Hilda Booth.
The Board of Commissioners continued the hearing until Monday, August 6, 1951, and adjourned.

A CONTINUED HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONCERNING CASE SHORTAGE IN THE SHERIFF-TREASURER'S OFFICE—AUGUST 4, 1951.

Sheriff Jones: Mr. Nicholson has offered to pay the shortage. He was worried and wanted to get it paid. He was going to get it paid. He was going to get it paid.

Mr. McGowan: How were we able to check out on June 30th if it happened in September?
Sheriff Jones: He borrowed money from his brother-in-law and brother and all he could rake and scrape, I heard Mr. Chestnut's name mentioned.