HELPING TO BUILD A Finer Carolina

The Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

VOL. 19. NO. 30. KENANSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1952. SUBSCRIPTION RATE: 3.50 per year in Duplin and adjoining counties; $4.00 outside this area in N. C.; $5.00 outside N. C. PRICE TEN CENTS

Plan To Attend East Carolina Folk Festival — Kenan Memorial Auditorium — Friday, Saturday, September 13 and 14.

They'll Swing And Sway In The Old Fashioned Way In Kenansville September 13-14

The above picture shows what may be expected at the first Annual East Carolina Folk Festival to be staged in Kenansville on Friday and Saturday, Sepember 13 and 14 under the direction of Bascom Lamar Lunsford, 'Minstrel of Appalachian,' when he comes here to establish a dream of his of long standing. Mr. Lunsford established and is successfully directing the annual Folk Festivals at Chapel Hill and Asheville each year. The first Festival is expected to draw talent and crowds from all parts of North Carolina. Like The Duplin Story, it will project Duplin into the limelight again, not just for this year, but for many years to come. Many of the older folks who recall the days of the 'Old Soldier's Reunions' in Kenansville have pined for the return of an annual get together of Duplin folks and their neighbors. Folks around here have been searching for an idea to restore these old reunions for a long time. Mr. Lunsford, when he visited Duplin County and Kenansville recently, saw the advantages offered by Kenan Memorial Auditorium to put into action in Eastern Carolina what he has done in the Piedmont and West. The Duplin PTA decided to sponsor the project. It has been agreed that one third of the profits from the project will be given to the county P. T. A. for their part in sponsoring it. Keep the Festival in mind folks and begin talking it up. Many are already predicting crowds of over 5,000 people each night.

Heavy Rain Brings Relief To Suffering Mankind, Tobacco

The second million dollar rain came to Duplin last night. Reports say it was general over the county. Not only were heat records broken in Duplin and North Carolina this week but all weather forecasters broke their record yesterday by insisting there was no relief in sight from the heat and drought before the week end was over.

As loafers sweltered in the shade and tobacco croppers sweated in the sun yesterday slight rumblings began to be heard in the west soon after mid day. Thousands were quietly praying for rain and relief from the intense heat. Farmers were beginning to count their losses heavy when about dusk heavy clouds and cooling winds came up out of the west and for nearly an hour rain fell heaviiy and after the heavy fall let up light rain continued for several hours.

Farmers were going around with a different countenance this morning as a bright sun and cooler air faced them. The remark was heard that we can stand the heat alright if the rain maker will just stay with us until this tobacco crop is housed. Duplin and the entire tobacco area has suffered tremendous losses this year so far. Not only is tobacco seriously damaged but the corn crop is cut even worse. However if reports reaching the Times from all sections of Southeastern Carolina are true Duplin is extremely fortunate. Tobacco looks better and shows less signs of damage in Duplin than any other section. Our crop is cut but not nearly so bad as in other sections. One farmer was heard to say yesterday that if the dry weather and heat continued without abatement the general loss in Duplin would not exceed one third but now that relief has come the damage will not be near that bad. On the whole prospects are fairly good for a good tobacco yield in Duplin and this fall should see things humming good again. There seems little doubt that Duplin tobacco will go at a premium on most markets in comparison with the leaf from most other counties.

Lightning Strikes Twice Hitting One Man And Shocking Two Others Knocking Out Two Mules

Laborers around the tobacco barn of Marving Bradshaw in Magnolia Wednesday must have thought something was after them during the serious electrical storm. Lightning was flashing rapid and fierce about the barn. Three of the workers went inside for protection. The barn seemed to be no protection for that lightning just kept right on coming. It came into the barn and struck Henry Kornegay in the leg and knocked him unconscious. After reviving it came again, striking nearby and shocking him a second time. Not only Henry received shocks, but so did Rivers Bowden and Crawford Carr, all colored. Two mules were tied outside and they got their share. They were knocked unconscious and stayed out for some time. Kornegay was carried to a Rose Hill doctor for treatment. After it was all over the trio and the mules were able to go on about their business but they will never forget the experience.

Editorial

By J. E. Grady

WE WELCOME

Kenansville and Duplin County extends a hearty welcome to Dr. Robert F. Willis and his attractive wife and two children who moved to town this week. They are occupying the home vacated by Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Allen, a fine couple Kenansville hated very much to lose. Dr. Willis will open offices in the Gooding building here on August 1st. He comes to Duplin highly recommended. He will do general practice. Watch the Times for announcement of his office hours.

It is fitting and appropriate that Kenansville should attract young and capable doctors now and as time goes on. The folks of Duplin are looking forward to the beginning of construction of the new hospital. The Times will have an important announcement on this subject in a short time.

Kenansville and the surrounding area also extends a hearty welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Phil Kretsch who moved into the Laura Moore Gavin house Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Kretsch come to Kenansville from Whiteville. He is the new cashier of Waccamaw Bank.

Also we wish to welcome to our community Mr. and Mrs. Plato Thigpen who purchased the Lacy Weeks new home this week and expect to move here from Beulaville some time this month. We hate very much to lose Mr. and Mrs. Weeks and Jean.

Though a little belated we wish to welcome Solicitor Grady Mercer to Kenansville. Though not moved here yet, we hope he plans to do so. Mr. Mercer has recently built and now occupies his new office located on the Chinquapin highway just off N. C. 24.

Congratulations are in order to Bernice Farrior who has recently gone into the real estate business. Mr. Farrior is the first Kenansville business man to make a profession of real estate promotion in Kenansville. He says his hope is to bring about the construction of more homes and business houses in the county seat.

Duplin Men For Schools Head

State Superintendent of Schools Clyde Erwin died last Saturday, unexpectedly. On the following day friends of Charlie Carroll, superintendent of the city schools in High Point and a native of Duplin County, began pushing Mr. Carroll for the job. Also friends of Supt. O. P. Johnson of Kenansville began plugging Mr. Johnson for the place. It is felt by many that the support for Mr. Johnson may have gained some momentum but he insisted that Mr. Carroll was the man for the job and threw his support to him. However it is thought Johnson's name will be presented to Governor Scott as well as Mr. Carroll. Both men can well qualify and Duplin hopes that the new leader of our state schools will be a Duplin County man.

Rev. N. E. Gresham

Chinquapin and Duplin County has lost a very fine and valuable citizen in the death of Rev. N. E. Gresham, a native of the Beulaville section, has given his entire life to the service of his fellow man. Though maybe not in the genius class he was truly among the top in the groups of those who lived their fellow man. In educational circles he did himself well, having taught in several schools and served for a number of years as superintendent of the Hoggsburg County Schools. He loved his school work but closest to his heart was his

CONTINUED ON BACK

Rev. Newton Ernest Gresham, Prominent Minister And School Man Dies in Hospital

The Rev. Newton Ernest Gresham, 57, pastor of the Chinquapin field of Baptist Churches, died at 3 a. m. Monday in Baptist Hospital in Winston Salem after a short illness. His churches were Sharon, Shiloh, Dobson's Chapel and the Island Creek Church. At the time of his death, he was also on the faculty of the Chinquapin High School. The Rev. Mr. Gresham was born in Beulaville, June 13, 1895, son of the late H. N. and Mattie Gresham. He graduated from Bules Creek Academy in 1915 and received his degree from Wake Forest College in 1920. He attended the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., completing his work there in 1924. During his career in the educational field, he was principal of the Beulaville High School, Chinquapin High School, South Edgecomb High School in Pinetops and served as county superintendent of schools in Edgecomb County from 1934-1941. The Rev. Mr. Gresham also served as counselor to the Veterans Administration during 1946 to 1947. He was a Mason and a past commander of Tarboro's Legion post. Funeral services were held at Sharon Baptist Church Tuesday at 3 p. m. and burial was in the family cemetery in Beulaville. Surviving are his wife, Helen Smith Gresham; two daughters,

REV. N. E. GRESHAM

Miss Elva Gresham of Chinquapin and Mrs. Van Muriel of Jacksonville; two sons, Newton Ernest, Jr., and Bobby Gresham of the home; five brothers, W. E. and R. C. of Beulaville, J. C. of Goldsboro, J. F. and H. R. Gresham of Raleigh; three sisters, Mrs. W. C. Fitzgerald of Raleigh, Mrs. Robert Batchelor and Mrs. Major Lanier of Beulaville.

Duplin Co. Public Health News

Mrs. Myrtle Register is attending a short course on mental health at the University at Chapel Hill this week. Miss Mary Lee Sykes and Miss Norma Candrena went to Winston Salem Wednesday to take a premature baby to the premature baby center there. Dr. John F. Powers gave a talk on First Aid to the Rockfish Home Dem. Club Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Gordon Kornegay vital statistics clerk gives the following report for May 1952.

Births to Duplin residents 74—41 of which were born in out of county hospitals—26 deaths, 8 occurring in out of county hospitals.

Mr. Gib Buck, Sanatorian is back on the job after two weeks of military leave to attend camp in Alabama.

Dr. Dorothy Park Conducts Clinic

Dr. Dorothy G. Park, acting director of Psychiatric and Psychological Services for the North Carolina Department of Public Welfare, is conducting a psychological clinic this week in Duplin County.

There will be nineteen conferences with Dr. Park during the week. Five of these are gov. adoption interviews for information about the child's personalities. Six interviews have been requested by parents for the better orientation of their children's abilities and to gain fuller understanding of the best methods of training the child.

Mr. 'Les' Receives Citation From P. O. Dept. For Service

Mr. Les Williams, recently retired from his position as Postmaster of Kenansville, has received the following citation from the Post Office Department:

Honorary Recognition is accorded John L. Williams for meritorious accomplishment and devotion to duty in the course of an honorable career in the United States Postal Service.

This citation, tendered upon the occasion of the retirement from active duty, conveys official commendation from the Postmaster General with a cordial expression of esteem from co-workers in the service. — Washington, June 30, 1952.

J. M. Donaldson,
Postmaster General.

Duplin Blood Donors Named

Mrs. Louise Boney, Executive Secretary of the Red Cross announced the following people as blood donors at the Center in Goldsboro last Friday—Mrs. Margaret Johnson and Joe Quinn of Kenansville, The Reverend L. C. Frazier of Outlaw's Bridge, Mrs. Emma Scott Lockamy, William Craven and [illegible] of Warsaw. Other volunteers were [illegible]

Sheriff's Office Busy With Arrests

The Sheriff's office was busy over the week end with several arrests. Jasper Williams of Glisson Township was arrested for public drunkenness, using profane and abusive language in Doc Herring's store on Sunday. He was asked to leave the store several times, but refused to leave. Tried in the J. P. Court, he was fined $10 and costs.

Leslie Miller of Limestone and James Henry Bryant, Negro, of Kenansville were arrested Saturday for public drunkenness. James Bryant was fined $10 and costs in the J. P. Court, Leslie Miller appealed to the County Court.

Herbert Lee Summerlin, Jr., and Emmett Ezzell both white of Glisson Township, were arrested on Sunday on a warrant charging them with kidnapping and rape, and possession of non tax paid whiskey. The case was tried in the J. P. court on Monday night before a packed court room. They were defended by Isaac Gavin who requested that the witnesses be sequestered. Both entered a plea of not guilty. The woman who swore out the warrant was married and the mother of two children. She claimed that the two men dragged her to the car against her wishes and drove her to the woods where she was raped by both of them. She submitted as evidence a badly torn dress and slip both covered with blood.

The two defendants who did not take the stand had admitted to the sheriff that they had intercourse with the woman which was brought out in the hearing. Mrs. Connie Bell Byrd, the prosecuting witness, had to support her charge three State's witnesses, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Davis and their daughter, Joyce. Mrs. Davis was not present at the time of the alleged kidnapping, but her husband and daughter both swore that Mrs. Byrd had been taken away against her will, and that she had struggled to get away There were discrepancies in the stories of the State's witnesses but their story about the prosecuting witness, having been taken away involuntarily was not shaken. Both of the defendants had been in court before. There was no attorney for the State present to argue the case.

C. B. Sitterson, Justice of the Peace, dismissed the case, he said, for lack of evidence to support the charges.

Willard Pate, 35, of Summerlin Crossroads, was arrested for wife beating and drunkenness on the complaint of his wife, Mrs. Emma Louise Pate. He was alleged to have beaten her on both July 19 and 20, threatening her life, running her away from home and cursing her. He was bound over to the County Court to be held on August 4.

WINNER

Lynn Veach, age 12, member of the Warsaw Junior Music Club played in the North Carolina Federation of Music Clubs festival in Greenville April 8 and won the grade of superior rating in the Piano Solo event for the third successive year. Lynn will receive a Gold Certificate from the National Federation of Music Clubs for this accomplishment. Mr. Robert Carter of S. C. C. in Greenville was her judge. She has played for Lee Pendergraft, actress, pianist, [illegible] and [illegible] Mrs. [illegible] Mrs. [illegible] Mrs.