



# Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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

VOL. 19, NO. 30.

KENANSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1952.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$50 per year in Duplin and adjoining counties; \$4.00 outside this area in N. C.; \$5.00 outside N. C.

PRICE TEN CENTS

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, September 13 and 14 under the direction of Bascom Lamar Lunsford, 'Minister of Appalachia', when he comes here to establish a dream of his of long standing. Mr. Lunsford established and is successfully directing the

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

### 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 Beaufort 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 Farris who has recently gone into the real estate business. Mr. Farris is the first Kenansville business man to make a profession of real estate promotion in Kenansville. He says he hopes to bring about the construction of more homes and business houses in the county.

### 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 Euphonia O. F. Johnson of Kenansville began pushing 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 recommended to Governor Sikes 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 Beaufort section, has given his entire life to the service of his fellow man. Though maybe not in the grand plan he was truly among the top in the group of those who have 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 Beaufort County Schools. He spent his school years in the Beaufort section.

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

came again, striking nearby and shocking him a second time. Not only Henry received shocks, but so did Rivers Bowdye 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.

## 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 Tealand 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 Beaufort, June 13, 1895, son of the late H. N. and Mattie Gresham. He graduated from Beaufort High School 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 Beaufort 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 Beaufort. Surviving are his wife, Helen Smith Gresham; two daughters,

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.

## 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 Ezell 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 sentenced by Judge Gavin to 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.

## 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

Miss 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 Outlets, Bridget, Mr. James Scott, Lenoxy, William Covens and the Rev. Mr. Robert Carr of Kenansville. Mr. Robert Carr is a member of the Kenansville and W. E. Duplin Branch of the Red Cross.

pre-medical education; he was chosen for Alpha Epsilon Delta, a National Honorary Pre-Medical Fraternity. While at West Virginia University he received the A. B. and B. S. degrees. Then after two years of medicine he transferred to the Medical College of Virginia, from which he received his M. D. degree in June, 1951.

## New Doctor Moves To Kenansville

Dr. Robert F. Willis moved to Kenansville this week with Mrs. Willis and their two children. They are occupying the M. F. Allen home. Dr. Willis will open offices for the practice of general medicine here on August 1st. His office will occupy the entire first floor of the Gooding building. Work is being completed this week on remodeling the floor into a suite of offices that will enable the new doctor to take care of several patients at one time.

Dr. Willis comes to Kenansville and Duplin County highly recommended following a year of internship in the Charleston, West Virginia General Hospital. He chose rural practice instead of a specialized line because he is a country man himself and has dedicated his life to the improvement of health and protection of the rural people. He became convinced, he says, that Kenansville was the place for him after visiting here several months ago at the invitation of the local Lions Club. He recently took the North Carolina State Medical Board examination and passed with high marks.

Dr. Willis was born in Kanawha County, West Virginia, the son of a Coal Miner. He attended Kanawha County schools and graduated from East Bank High School in 1938. Before entering the Service, he attended West Virginia Institute of Technology and Morris Harvey College. He entered the U. S. Navy in 1942 and served in the Hospital Corps for three years. Following this he attended West Virginia University. During the course of his

## 'Thrifty's' Is Warsaw's Newest Self Service Type Of Department Store

Warsaw continues its signs of progress. Last week the Top Mode Manufacturing Company opened for operation and tomorrow, Friday, Thrifty's opens the town's newest department store. Thrifty's is a type of store the name implies. Being opened by Norman Hurwitz of Clinton, who operates a Thrifty's there, he says the plan of operation of Thrifty's allows them to sell at lower prices because of lower overhead. No shelves will be found in the store. All merchandise is displayed on tables and plainly marked so that the customer can wait on himself. All red tape as to conventional merchandising is thrown out the window and the savings passed on to the customer, he says.

## Shining Moments Of Democratic Convention

As we go to press on Thursday, the exciting speeches and the parades are still to come. But three moments will stand out in the future annals of the Democratic party. The first was the tremendous and well deserved acclaim accorded one of the great women of the world, Eleanor Roosevelt, and her intelligent and non-partisan speech that followed. Another highlight of the convention was the speech of Speaker of the House, Sam Rayburn—his attack of the Republican party and its platform was delightfully humorous. He said in part, "that the Republicans want an America where they are in power and the people are out in left field." What they ask of you is a modest request from their point of view. It is only that you trade your new car for an old buggy; swap your television set for a magic lantern jump from bed into a straitjacket of uncertainty." And no one could hear the huge, overwhelming demonstration given the grand old man of the party, Alben Barkley, and remain unmoved. It was by all odds the most emotional moment of the convention, and the people like emotional moments

# Heavy Rain Brings Relief To Suffering Mankind, Tobacco

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## Frank Rackley Is Improving, Moved To Winston-Salem

Frank Rackley, who was hurt when he dived into another swimmer at Lake Tut, has been moved from the hospital in Wilmington to the Bowman Gray Hospital in Winston-Salem for further treatment. His condition is said to be improving.

## Jones Family Hurt In Wreck On Way Back From Hospital

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Jones and their two daughters, Ernestine and Gloria, were involved in a wreck Wednesday night on the way back from the hospital to visit their son, Randall, who had sustained a fractured skull on Monday when he fell from a bicycle.

According to information from State Patrolman Proctor who investigated, Mr. Jones was driving a 1950 Ford, on his way back from the hospital in Clinton where the family had been to see their son. The accident occurred on N. C. Route 24 west in city limits of Warsaw when a 1938 Buick driven by Mr. John Elmer Anthony of Fort Bragg skidded on the right shoulder and swerved into the path of the Jones car, smashing the front of the Ford. The Buick overturned, and both cars are a total loss.

Mr. Jones received lacerations of the forehead, and John Anthony sustained right eye bruises and abrasions. Mr. Jones was seriously hurt with chest and head injuries, broken wrist, bruises and abrasions. Mrs. Wilbur Jones who was riding in the right front seat sustained head injuries, a possible fracture of the left leg and was unconscious when taken to the hospital in Clinton. Ernestine Jones, 16, had a fractured right leg, bruises and abrasions. Gloria Jones, 6 month old daughter of the Jones, who was riding in her mother's lap only had minor bruises although the dash board was smashed from the direct impact. Clifford Leroy Blackburn, 22, riding in the Anthony car escaped with lacerations. All of the Jones were taken to the hospital in Clinton which they had just left.

Word has just been received that Gloria Jones was seriously hurt when she was first reported and that she had been taken back to the hospital Thursday morning when a large bump was discovered on her head.

## All Heat Records Broken: No Relief Promised

If you have been thinking that it is unusually hot, brother, you are so right! All existing records have been broken this week as the mercury climbed to the dizzy heights it has ever reached. Tuesday was the hottest day ever recorded in North Carolina—it was 105 in Raleigh, 107 in Wilson, 107 in Kenansville. Monday it was officially 106 in the shade here—and the nights have been scorching. The weatherman from the U. S. Weather Bureau reports that he can see no possibility of rain or cool air to break the sizzling heat wave. All over the state people have been fainting at work, or become nauseated or overcome by the intensity of the heat. It is hot inside, it's hot outside—and if you find any place in Eastern North Carolina where it is less than a hundred degrees let us know. The furniture is hot to the touch. Waves of heat attack you as you walk on the sidewalk. Asphalt melts and sticks to your shoes as you cross the road. Night after night the minimum temperature has not gone down to 80 degrees. Yes, it's the hottest, driest season ever recorded—and troops are writing—and so are we all.

Well, we can be wrong—and so can the Weather Bureau—and in this case, we do NOT apologize for the "No relief in sight" statement above. The rain and the rapid decrease in the sizzling temperatures were so welcome that we are delighted to have been proved wrong. The Weather Bureau personnel in Raleigh are taking a large share of the credit for the rain and the respite that because they had planned a staff picnic to begin at 5 p. m. All we have to say is it is too bad they didn't schedule one long before—and when, if ever, we have such a respite, hellish week again, let's wire the Bureau for relief—ask them to have another picnic.

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 heavily and after the heavy fall fell 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 for most years in comparison with the rest from most other counties.

## Tobacco Markets Open: Price Higher Than Last Year's

Tobacco averaged 52.86 at Lake City, Fla., at the opening of the 1952 season Monday. Tobacco on the Lake City market is ungraded and untied and usually sells from 3 to 5 cents less than tobacco on the Goldsboro market. At the Valdosta, Georgia, market, heavy sales at higher averages prices marked the opening of the blue cured tobacco market in spite of forecasts of a drought shortened crop. In comparison to 1951 openings, average prices ranged from an \$8 per hundred pound increase at Metter, Ga., to a drop of \$5.26 at Live Oak, Fla.

## Fish Fry To Be Wednesday July 30

The Magnolia Lion's Club is sponsoring a fish fry to be held at Carlton's Fish Pond, located near Carlton's Crossing, between Magnolia and Warsaw, on Wednesday night, July 30. Come and enjoy a meal, all you can eat for \$1.00

## STRICTLY FRESH

As he was divorced for the 14th time, a Seattle man said, "There's a girl in the world who is made for me." If this continues, he'll have to try Mars.

The Army has decided that soldiers who work in an office don't need steel helmets. How about reinforced trousers?

With heat waves all around us, it's time for department stores to start reminding us of the number of shopping days left 'til Christmas.

With many spending two weeks vacationing in the woods, a return to civilization and world news is bound to increase enrollment in forest ranger schools.