

Two Sections
16 Pages
This Week

Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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PRICE TEN CENTS

Editorial

VOTE FOR BETTER SCHOOLS

(By J. R. Grady)

What would you think or do if tomorrow your child went to school and found no room for him there? It just wouldn't make sense, would it? Since the days of the "Little Red School House" there seems to have always been room to take care of the children who wanted to go to school.

The picture is rapidly changing. We here in America, the wealthiest nation on earth, are finding our schools bulging out with students and the walls buckling.

This picture is not just local but is nation-wide. However, our immediate interest, like every other section, is our own community or county. We have been fighting against time here in Duplin in recent years to provide ample school facilities for our colored children, a long overdue obligation. We have not reached perfection there yet but as we labor we find our white schools becoming more overcrowded each year. Our county debt is already about at a maximum yet if something isn't done we are going to be faced soon with the problem of voting more bonds to provide more classrooms for our white and Negro schools.

Duplin is a poor county, comparatively speaking in North Carolina. We are not the poorest but certainly we are poor enough. Just as an example a three cents tax rate will build one classroom in Duplin County whereas the same three cents tax rate will build 16 classrooms in Guilford County.

The last Legislature called for a bond issue vote of 50 million dollars for schools and 22 million dollars for mental hospitals to be held Saturday, October 3rd. This bond issue, if passed, becomes a state obligation and not a county obligation. Not one cent tax will be levied against your real estate if this issue passes. It will be paid out of the surplus fund in the State Treasury at the end of each fiscal year. Not even one penny will be added to the gas tax as was the case in the road issue.

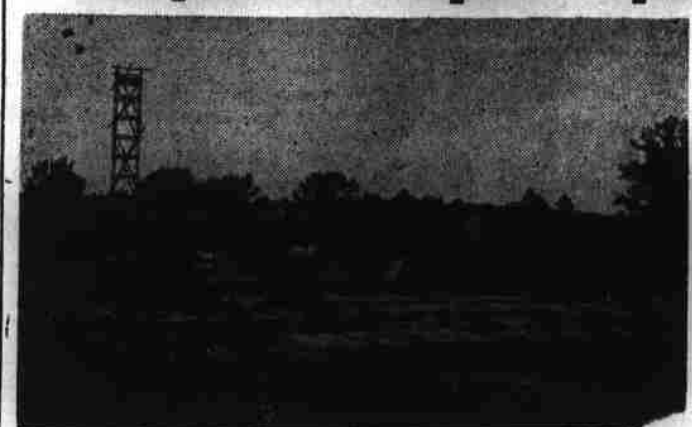
If it is passed it will mean that Duplin County will get new school buildings or additions to present ones without any increase in our taxes. I don't know the exact figure but the situation will apply to us something like the difference the county is paying on the Duplin General Hospital now being built. More than 75 per cent of the hospital funds are coming from the state and federal governments. Although the county did vote a local bond issue in order to secure the hospital we will not have to vote a local bond issue or suffer our present county tax rate be increased if the School and Mental Institution Bond Issue is carried. The wealthier counties in the state, like Guilford I mentioned above, will be carrying most of the load. If this bond issue is to carry it strikes me that the rural counties of the state, especially the east, are going to have to do the job. We must get out a large, very large vote to offset any contrary vote in the large cities and industrial counties where they already have adequate funds to maintain their school system. The last Legislature gave us this opportunity to better ourselves with no increased cost to us. The job is ours if we will only do it. It's very simple, just go to the polls on October 3rd and cast your vote in favor of the bonds, thus casting your vote for a better future of your children tomorrow. The least we can do is to leave our children a better heritage than we were left. As someone expressed it the other day "progress is change." Growth is change for the better and that change in this case must be in the ballot box come October 3rd.

'Dutch' Gets A Watermelon



A gift of a large juicy watermelon from John Bryant of Kenansville, Route 1, was delivered recently by "Ken and Len" of the Frank Leonard Enterprises in Kinston. Bryant sent the melon as a token of appreciation to Witherington, a native Duplinite, who has long been a friend of the farmers and his neighbors in Duplin County. Witherington declared it was "the best we ever ate," a sentiment in which his wife readily concurred. In the photo left to right are Leonard Parsons, Witherington and Kenneth F. Andrews. (Photo by George Denmark, Jr.)

Duplin General Hospital One-Third Completed; Expect Open Next Sept.



As it looks today. Construction work is one-third completed with necessary supplies coming in as needed. (Photo by Dan McMaster, staff photographer.)

(By CAROLYN CRAVEN)

With the construction work one-third complete, Duplin County citizens are taking great pride in the Duplin General Hospital, in Kenansville, which will be the only hospital in the county and will meet a long standing need.

A plan conceived long ago to bring more adequate medical facilities to the people of the county is nearing reality. The hospital plant, which will cost by itself over \$700,000, is being constructed in the most up-to-the-date way and incorporates all the newest ideas in hospital efficiency, comfort and safety. The most modern and the best of surgical equipment is being selected for installation, and the interior furnishings and food service utilities which will be purchased are the result of long and careful study by various experts in the field.

James Southern Construction Company of Wilson, a 40-year-old establishment which has built several hospitals in this area, has the general contract for the hospital building, with Odell Watson as building superintendent.

In addition to the hospital, construction will soon begin on a two-story nurses' home and a modern health center. Contracts for these two buildings have just recently been awarded to the Coastal Construction Company of Rose Hill.

The three building plant has been designed by Architect Leslie N. Boney of Wilmington, and various contractors and builders who have studied the plans while making contract bids in the preliminary negotiations, have remarked that the finished plant will not only be a modern and most adequate one, but a most beautiful one.

The Duplin County Medical Association practicing physicians plus Dr. D. W. Buffin, ear, eye, nose and throat specialist of Pink Hill, will make up the medical staff. The staff will elect its own chairman from its midst. Several prominent surgeons, also, are interested in the project.

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Lions Vote To Accept Vance Gavin's Proposition To Build Boy Scout Hut Here

The Kenansville Lions Club voted last night to accept a challenge from local Attorney Vance Gavin to build a Boy Scout hut for Kenansville. Mr. Gavin, it was reported, has offered to give the necessary amount of ground and \$500 in cash providing the local people will donate enough to complete the job. It was estimated that a 25x25 foot cement block building would be adequate. Scoutmaster John Hall was present and said such a move would improve Scouting in Kenansville far beyond anyone's dream. Boy Scouting has long been one of the town's favorite hobbies and records of former Scouts has proven the worthiness of the hobby.

The site offered by Mr. Gavin adjoins the old historical Spring in Kenansville, and is a ideal setting for such a building. When the Duplin General Hospital is completed the Spring and Scout Hut park that is in the overall plans. They also lie adjacent to historic James Sprunt home here, that was donated to Grove Presbyterian Church long years ago and is said to be one of the finest examples of anti-bellum architecture in this section. The whole picture adds up to a scenic beauty spot in Kenansville in just a short time.

The Lions also voted to go all out in its effort to raise Kenansville's part in Tuscarora Council's Boy Scout fund drive on October 6. Emmett Kelly is president of the local Lions Club which is the only civic club in town and more or less plays the role of Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Association, etc., in sponsoring local projects.

Big Home Talent Show Booked For Beulaville Next Week-End

Beulavilleites are in for some real fun in the way of entertainment on Thursday and Friday nights, October 1st and 2nd. A slapstick comedy entitled "Flying High" will be given on the stage of the Beulaville High auditorium. It is a home talent show with a cast of 36 people ranging in age from 8 to 80. Mrs. Harrell is directing it and she says it will be a hilarious riot from beginning to end. If you want to split your sides or roll out into the aisles just be sure and see this show, she says.

It is tops in comedy and everyone should buy tickets for two reasons. First, they will be helping in a civic cause, and second, they will treat themselves to some real entertainment. Adult tickets will be \$1.00, and student tickets 50 cents for all students from first through 11th grades. These prices include tax. Curtain time is 8 o'clock each evening.

Faison McGowen Tells Story About N. C. Bond Vote On October Third

(By F. W. MCGOWEN)

On October 3, Duplin County, and North Carolina, has a date with destiny. On this day, we will decide a great issue which involves not only the welfare of hundreds of the mentally ill, but also the future of many thousands of children in the public schools.

Four and one-half million of the twenty-two million dollar bond issue is for a training school for white children whose mental capacity is not normal, and another four and one-half million is for a similar school for Negro children. The remaining thirteen million is for needed additions, necessary housing and renovations at Dix Hill in Raleigh, and similar state institutions at Morganton, Goldsboro, Camp Butler and Kinston. Carwell Training School at Kinston was built a number of years ago to care for children whose mental capacity was not normal, but there have been so many who needed to go there that this school has not been nearly large enough. Campwell is, and has been almost impossible to get a child admitted. All of the other state mental institutions have been overcrowded.

Now there are 10,879 patients in the several state mental institutions — 99 from Duplin County.

There are 935 persons on the waiting lists of the several state mental institutions — 18 from Duplin County.

Time and time again persons who needed to be in one of the state mental institutions have had to be locked up in jail because there was no room at the proper state institution. This condition should not exist. The great State of North Carolina is well able to take care of its unfortunate.

The bigger the majority for the

Briefs

TO ENTER EMORY U.
Deems Wiggs left for Atlanta, Ga. Friday where he will enter Emory University. He has been awarded a scholarship there and will study for a P. H. D.

Mr. Wiggs has a B. S. and M. A. degree from George Washington University and taught in the schools of Luray, Va. last year.

GLASS BACK BOARDS
The Board of trustees of Kenan Auditorium in session Monday night voted to purchase glass back boards for the building at once. They are expected to be installed before the first basketball game this season. The board also voted to continue its 10 per cent charge for use of the auditorium.

MRS. POTTER BACK
Mrs. Melvin Potter, advertising representative for the Times, will be back on the job part time next week. Mrs. Potter at present will call on merchants in Pink Hill and Kinston.

TO BUY UNIFORMS
Funds received from an entertainment to be given at Wallace on Monday, September 22, will go toward the purchase of new uniforms for the Wallace High School Band. Bruce "Bubbles" Becker will return with his 10-piece orchestra and "Spotlight Revue."

The dance and floor show will be held at the high school gymnasium. The high school band made its first appearance as a marching band on Wallace streets Friday. It is hoped to raise enough money to purchase uniforms before the end of the football season.

BEAN PICKING TIME
Picking of string beans planted this year at the edge of this town was begun this week by H. B. Koenig, who owns some 600 or 700 acres south of town.

Keeping a strict record, the land owner said he would plant more beans next year if this crop is successful. Recent rains assure him two full crops he believes.

Eric Long Funeral Rock Fish Tomorrow
Funeral services for Eric Long, nephew of Mrs. G. V. Gooding of Kenansville, who died of a heart attack in California on Wednesday of last week, will be held from Rock Fish Presbyterian Church at Wallace Friday at 2 p. m. Interment will be in Rock Fish Cemetery.

"Mister Roberts," starring Henry Fonda and John Forsythe, was performed 1157 times on Broadway, running from Feb. 18, 1948, to Jan. 6, 1951.

Folk Festival Time Is Here

Correction

The local Lions Club cannot sponsor the local Fire Department as reported by The Times. The Town Board has to name the fire chief and he in turn names the personnel of the Fire Department and is responsible for their actions. Rev. Lauren Sharpe has been designated fire chief.

The Lions Club or any other organization is invited to give every support possible to the Fire Department.

The Times was informed yesterday that the Ford chassis on which the fire engine is to be mounted was delivered to the fire truck people three weeks ago.

WITH OUR BOYS IN SERVICE



Pvt. Gaston F. Grady, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard F. Grady, of Albemarle, N. C. has completed sixteen weeks of basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He is being reassigned to Fort Jackson on Sept. 2nd for eight weeks of Leadership school.

Pvt. Grady was a graduate of B. F. Grady High School Class of '51. Before entering the service he was an apprentice embalmer with Willford Funeral Home in Edenton, N. C.

SFC. WILLIAM BOWDEN WITH THE 25th INFANTRY DIV. IN NKOREA — Sergeant First Class William Bowden, whose wife, Johnnie, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Bowden, live in Mt. Olive, N. C., is returning to the U. S. after duty with the 25th Infantry Division in Korea.

The 25th Infantry was rushed to Korea during the early days of the conflict and took part in some of the toughest battles on the peninsula. It is now undergoing intensive training to maintain its fighting strength.

Bowden, who had been in Korea since July 1952, was a platoon sergeant in Company C of the 27th Infantry Regiment. He holds the Korean and UN Service Ribbons and the Combat Infantryman Badge. Bowden entered the Army in December 1951.

Home, Barn And Packhouse Lost In Three Fires

During the past three weeks farmers in the Kenansville section suffered serious losses from fires.

On Thursday afternoon of last week the home of Jeff Alphin, tenant on the Alphin Phillips farm, on the Kenansville-Unity Church Road was completely destroyed by fire while the family was attending the funeral of Mrs. Torrance Alphin. One room was filled with tobacco. The house, with all contents, including tobacco and all furniture, was destroyed. One porch chair and bench were reported saved. Origin of the fire is unknown.

On Saturday afternoon a tobacco barn on the J. O. Stokes farm being tended by Charlie McArthur burned, losing all tobacco in the barn. A faulty carburetor in the car was reported as the cause.

A packhouse on the farm of Mollie Westbrook near town was reported burned Monday. It was reported the entire tobacco crop of tenant Grady Lacer, except one or two sales he had made, was lost.

156 Cases Listed For County Court

There were 156 cases on the docket for Duplin County Court as it went into its first session in over a month on Monday morning, September 21.

Judge H. E. Phillips and County Solicitor Grady Mercer had a full calendar to wade through as many of the cases had been kept pending longer than is usual due to the two weeks of Superior Court held in Kenansville recently under Judge Henry L. Stevens.

Although the court records were still being compiled at the time the TIMES went to press, it was reported that a majority of the cases were able to be completed. More details on the records will be published when these have been compiled.

Seventy-four cases were listed on the calendar for Monday; 42 for Tuesday; and 40 for Wednesday. This made a total of 156 cases listed on the docket for action.

Special Home Dem. Events In Duplin

Following is a list of special events of interest to Home Demonstration Club women of Duplin County:

1. N. C. Bond vote for Public Schools and Mental Hospitals on Saturday, October 3. Go and vote!
2. Music Leaders Training School, October 5-9, each evening 7:30-9:30 o'clock, W a 11 a c e Presbyterian Church, Wallace.
3. Special course: Music in The Church.
4. Teacher: Dr. James R. Snyder, Professor of Church Music at the General Assembly's Training School, Richmond, Va.
5. Achievement Day, Thursday, November 5, Kenansville High School Auditorium at 2:30 o'clock.

Everything is all set, in fact, according to latest reports more than all set for the second annual East Carolina Folk Festival to be held at the B. F. Grady School Friday and Saturday nights of this week. Bascom Lamarr Lunsford has been on the scene several days now and reports point to more than an overflow crowd. Plans have been made to convert the Grady gymnasium into a temporary auditorium in order to take care of any overflow crowd and it may be that the Festival will be going on in two separate buildings at the same time. However, those arriving early are urged to go into the auditorium first. It is desired to fill it first and let any overflow go into the gym.

Contestants have been lined up from many parts of eastern, central and western North Carolina, and they say they are coming in a big way. The folks of "Chocolate" as the neighborhood is called, are opening their homes to take care of any participant who may come from a distance. A large picnic is planned at the school for Friday night at 6 o'clock.

Carter Fabrics Donate \$100 To Kenan Auditorium

The J. P. Stevens Company, Carter Fabrics Operating Group, of Greensboro, who own and operate the large textile mill in Wallace, last week mailed a check for \$100 to the Kenan Memorial Auditorium. Director of Public Relations, John S. Patterson, wrote Auditorium Chairman Bob Grady as follows: "... I am attaching a check in the amount of \$100 as a donation from the Carter Fabrics Division of our company, Wallace, N. C., to the Kenan Memorial Auditorium fund."

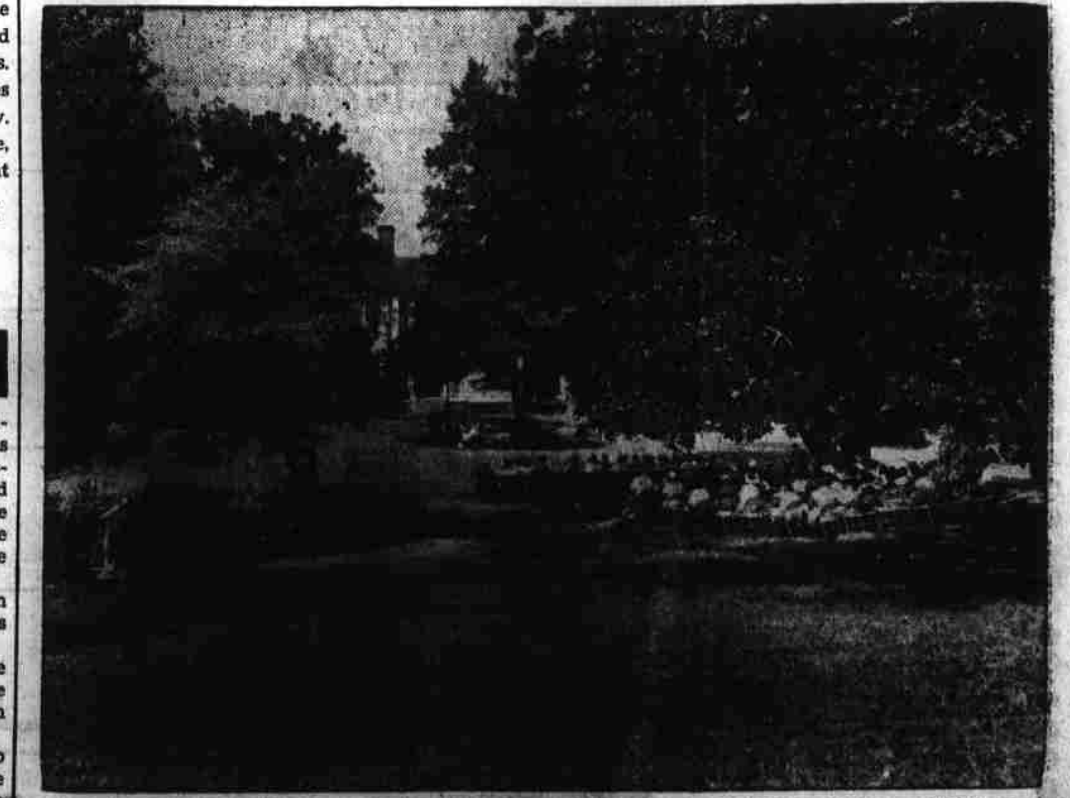
3. Rural Health Institute, Textile Building, N. C. State College, Raleigh, Wednesday, October 21, 10 o'clock a. m. 4-30 p. m.

4. N. C. State Fair, October 20-24, Raleigh. Write Dr. Dorion for fair catalogue and make entries for valuable prizes that are being offered.

Assault, Robbery

Dayton Watts is in Duplin County jail under \$4,000 bond on charges of secret assault, robbery and theft of an automobile. His hearing was held before Judge H. H. Phillips following the severe beating of C. L. DeVane, farmer of near Wallace.

Watts has just finished serving a five- to seven-year prison term in Columbus County for breaking and entering. His arrest followed an episode on the outskirts of Wilmington when DeVane gave Watts and another man a ride as he was returning from the Lumberton tobacco market.



JAMES SPRUNT PRESBYTERIAN MANSE—Photo shows the recent annual outdoor morning service on the lawn of the James Sprunt Presbyterian Manse in Kenansville. The Grove and Hallville Presbyterian congregations gather annually for a joint morning worship which is followed by a picnic dinner. The manse, said to be one of the most beautiful anti-bellum homes in Eastern Carolina, was given by Dr. James M. Sprunt, pastor of Grove Church and for many years president of the James Sprunt Institute, high school and junior college for girls, in Kenansville maintained by the Wilmington Presbytery prior to the turn of the century and closing in the early 1920s. The front lawn covers several acres. The Rev. J. T. Hayter resides in the manse now and fills the pulpits of Grove and Hallville churches.