



# Remarks By Governor Luther Hodges At Recent Special Press Conference

We are well blessed in North Carolina with newspapers and primary media of communication — both in quality and quantity. There are about 200 newspapers, 110 radio stations and 10 television stations now serving the people of our State. We are indeed fortunate to have so many sources for information, education and entertainment, and it is my feeling that North Carolina is fortunate to have media of such high character.

As you know, this conference was called primarily for the smaller daily and non-daily newspapers which normally are not represented at the Governor's regular conferences held twice weekly in Raleigh. It is your job to devote much of your interest to local news and happenings which serve the State as well as the newspapers closest to the people. I believe North Carolina ranks high among the states in the number and influence of its small daily and weekly newspapers.

I realize fully the responsibility which you, as newspaper people, have in dealing with that most perishable commodity — news. You record of service to your communities and counties throughout the year has been outstanding. As Governor, I want you to know that we in your State Government will make every effort to keep you informed to the best of our ability on the progress and problems of your government.

Thank you for the many kind

comments and editorials which have been written about us since I took office, following the death of Governor Owsen.

I seek your continued understanding and support in the problems which we all face as citizens of North Carolina. However, I am well aware of the need for constructive criticism from the press and elsewhere; and I know that you will not hesitate to speak your minds through the editorial columns of your newspapers. My only suggestion to you, when dealing with our many state problems, is to remember that the overall welfare of the State should be taken into account, rather than a more restricted viewpoint based primarily on regional or special interests. I shall attempt to see my job from a State point of view, also.

During the past several weeks I have met with the majority of the State Department heads in an effort to get better acquainted with them and the work which they do. I have told them that they should continue to carry on the State's business to the best of their ability, as one man could find the time to check on their work; but their own conscience and the public would be their boss.

The majority of State employees are energetic, efficient and loyal people; and they are proud of the services rendered by the agency which they represent. North Carolina's record of long years of good State Government is proof of this

statement. However, we as State employees, cannot rest on our laurels. Day by day, North Carolina grows. Additional needs for services are evident. New services, authorized in such areas as education, are frequently found to be urgent before completion and our State Government becomes more complex and expensive. In talking with the group of State employees, I reminded them that greater diligence is demanded of each of us to match these difficult times. I said we must always bear in mind that every dollar comes from the pocketbooks of the people of North Carolina — the taxpayers.

One of the most important problems facing our state now, of course, is the question of revenue and appropriations. I would like to introduce the Honorable Henry L. Bridges, State Auditor, who will tell you briefly about this situation.

I shall not attempt to analyze in detail all aspects of this 1953 fiscal problem. However, a glance back at the record of the General Fund will reveal some astounding figures. In 1932-33, our total collections were under \$30,000,000. This period saw our sales tax enacted. Since about 1940, net revenues have exceeded current expenditures each year until the fiscal year, 1952-53. At this time, revenues began to level off, while expenditures — the cost of government — continued upward. Last year was the first year since 1941 (Continued On Back)

# Ike Houston Given \$100 Christmas Gift By Detective Wheeler Kennedy

The Houston, blind store operator who lives between Beaulville and Pink Hill, was given \$100 for Christmas by Kinston City Detective Wheeler Kennedy.

The presentation came as a result of an award which had been given Kennedy by Beaulville Lions Club for information leading to the arrests of Gerald Jones and Woodrow Lockamy.

The two robbed Houston of approximately \$500 of merchandise during the summer. An award was offered by the Beaulville Lions for information leading to the arrests of those responsible for the theft. Ralph Miller, sheriff of Duplin County, also offered a \$50 reward. Kennedy accepted the award with the opportunity of giving it to Houston.

The theft caused a great deal of excitement in Duplin and adjoining counties. State Bureau of Investigation authorities entered the case.

When the presentation was made at Christmas, SBI agent John B. Edwards represented the agency. The case. Others attending the event were Cecil and James Miller and I. J. Sandlin, Jr., represented the Lions Club and Sheriff Clay Broadway, of Kinston and Lenoir County, represented the Lenoir sheriff's department.

During the Christmas season, the Beaulville Lions and churches of the community gave 50 fruit and gift baskets, valued at \$450, to underprivileged and needy families in Beaulville.

Checks for \$50 were given by the Lions to Mrs. Eddie H. Thigpen and Cal Southernland, Negro. They are blind persons in Beaulville.

County Game Warden Files Charges Against Warsaw Officer For Assault

A charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill has been filed against Officer Archie Brown of the Warsaw Police Department. The charge is a result of an incident at a Warsaw theatre several weeks ago and will be tried at the next term of Duplin Superior Court.

John O. Edwards of Kenansville, game warden, in Duplin county, filed the charges against Brown as the result of a scuffle between the two men in the lobby of the theatre.

The scuffle is reported to have started after Brown asked Edwards to refrain from smoking in the theatre. Brown reportedly struck Edwards twice on the head. Edwards maintains that he made no move to arrest the officer and that Brown did not identify himself as a policeman. Edwards says that he was not resisting arrest because he was not placed under arrest by the officer. There is no report of any charges against Edwards.

# Christmas Party Money For German Students And Adults Sent Overseas

Warsaw Firm Low Bidder On Water Works For Field

A low bid of \$116,254 was entered yesterday by A. J. Jenkins of Warsaw for rehabilitation work on the water system at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in bid openings at the office of the Wilmington Corps of Engineers.

Opening of bids followed the awarding of contracts in the amount of \$668,812 for renovation of four wooden hangars and rehabilitation of the six miles of railroad.

A total of seven bids were entered, including that entered by T. A. Loving of Goldsboro for the sum of \$125,793.75.

Work on the water system will include repair and installation of lines and overhauling the pumping station.

The contract for the work is now subject to checking of unit price, a condition which governs who will get the contract. Each bid is to be checked. This will require about 1 days.

Contracts were awarded yesterday to Barnhill and Long, Inc., Tarboro, \$90,436.42, for rehabilitation of the railroad, and C. P. Wilson and Co. of Durham, \$578,378, renovation of four wooden hangars. Work on these projects will begin following the issuing of work orders by the Corps of Engineers. This will take some 10 days.

Bid openings for dormitories at the air field will take place at Hotel Goldsboro on Jan. 13.

Jenkins, low bidder on the water system already has a job for the Corps of Engineers at Pope Field, Fort Bragg.

Sheriff's Officers Have Little Work During Christmas

Sheriff Ralph Miller reported one liquor still destroyed during the past week.

A 200 gallon submarine type still was destroyed in Island Creek Township, Friday afternoon, near Pond Landing. Ten barrels of mash were destroyed.

On the raid were Norwood Boone, T. E. Reville, W. O. Houston and Sheriff Miller. No arrests were made.

Flander Williams, Negro, 30, was cut Christmas Eve by an unidentified person. Sheriff Miller said Williams' left ear was cut in two places and a gash under his chin.

The incident happened on Frank Summers' farm at the old Pickett Farm. Sheriff Miller said the identity of the one who did the cutting has not been determined but authorities are continuing investigation.

Jack Brinson, of the Cedar Fork section, near Beaulville, was arrested Monday for possessing one quart of bootleg whiskey. He is free under \$200 bond. His case will be heard in County Court, January 3.

He received a preliminary hearing before Magistrate G. S. Muldrow.

On the whole, Sheriff Miller said "everything was quiet in Duplin County during the Christmas holidays. Earl Crooms, Warsaw police chief, said no arrests were made in Warsaw during the holidays.

Homemakers HDC Christmas Party

The Homemakers Home Demonstration Club met for its regular monthly meeting Thursday evening in the home of Mrs. Robert Grady.

The Grady home was decorated in the Christmas motif. The dining room table was covered with a green cloth and centered with an arrangement of candles and native berries and balls.

Mrs. Hiram Jones gave the devotional using the Christmas Story from Luke.

Mrs. Willie Best presided over the business session, during which the scorekeeper, Mrs. James Whitfield, explained our record system.

A demonstration on "Holiday Meals" was given by the foods and nutrition leader, Mrs. Joe Waters. Mrs. Waters passed out leaflets on holiday cakes and candies.

Mrs. Robert Grady, program chairman, led the group in a discussion on Christmas decorations. Club reports were given by Mrs. Willie Best, Mrs. James Whitfield and Mrs. Joe Waters. Mrs. Eugene Hager led the group in singing the Christmas Carols.

During the social hour, there was an exchange of gifts, after which the hostess assisted by her daughter, Lynn and Mrs. Harold McCullen, served refreshments.

# EDITORIAL

**DAVID WILLIAMSON**  
By: J. R. Grady

Here is a man who came from humble beginnings. He hoped much from life and believed in the well-being of all his fellowmen. He started out in public service, serving his fellowmen and he soon learned that good government, in the interest of all, would pay off. He served our county, with sacrifice, in the belief that would pay off in the long run. And it did. He set a pattern for good administration in the enforcement of laws in our county. He was a steward in the Methodist church here for forty years. David Williamson made a great contribution to our county and the Duplin Times wants to not only recognize it, but remind all our folks that he was a man to be honored.

# Prominent Kenansville Citizen Succumbs To Heart Attack Wednesday

Kenansville—Funeral services for David Stephen Williamson, age 63, sheriff and one of the most popular public officials Duplin County has ever had, will be held from the home here Friday, 10:30 a.m. Interment will be in Golden Grove cemetery here.

Sheriff Williamson served Duplin County as sheriff longer than any other sheriff. He was first elected in 1924 and retired in 1948. Since his retirement he has operated his large farm holdings.

Yesterday he was in the court house attending to business at noon. He complained of feeling bad but attributed his feelings to too much Christmas excitement. At 2:15 he suffered a heart attack. Throughout the afternoon he suffered two more attacks. He was rushed to the James Walker Hospital in Wilmington where he succumbed at 9:05.

He is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. R. M. (Uncle Deb) Williamson of Kenansville township. He was first married to Mary Lou Chambers of Kenansville and is survived from this marriage by three children, D. C. (Buddy) of Charlotte; Hazel Scott of Kenansville; and Mrs. Lois Precythe of Faison. After his first wife died he married Miss Margaret Malloy of Jonesboro. Surviving from this marriage are two sons, Robert Franklin, now a student at East Carolina College and Stephen, who is a senior in Kenansville High School; one sister, Mrs. E. F. Sheppard of Wilmington and four brothers, Ben of Kenansville; R. L. of Richmond; P. P. of Richmond and Corbett of Rocky Mount.

Rev. J. G. White, pastor of the local Methodist Church of which he was an active member and steward for 40 years, will conduct the services, assisted by Rev. L. A. Sharp of the local Baptist church. Active pallbearers will be Gorman Powell, Joe Wallace, Faison McGowan, R. V. Wells, O. P. Johnson and Dr. Guy V. Gooding. Masonic rites will be held at the graveside.

# Are You Prepared For College?

By BILL OSCAR HOOKS, Student, State College

Have you ever thought about your high school education being inadequate for entrance into a major college or university? Do you know why such a large percentage of college freshmen fail various orientation exams? The blame can be pinpointed on two direct causes: failure of the students themselves to visualize the importance of a high school background; and a general lack of interest shown by some faculty members.

It is an accepted fact that college courses are on a much higher plane than those taught in high school, and the gap between the two is extremely wide.

Some few years ago, our board of education began to realize this fact and to take measures to solve the problem. Our eleven-year schools added the twelfth to try to close this wide gap between high school and college.

But, actually, what happened is

# Magnolia School Notes

A talent show was presented in the school auditorium Friday night, December 10, 1954. The PTA held its regular meeting, December 13, 1954. The parents and teachers entertained themselves with a panel discussion entitled: "THE DUTIES OF THE HOME CHURCH AND SCHOOL IN TRAINING THE CHILD." Mrs. G. C. Bowden, a parent, who summarized the discussion encouraged all parents to teach their children to love, "A life that counts." A recess was served in the school cafeteria. The menu included: chicken salad, rice crackers, iced drinks, and cookies.

The Magnolia Elementary School has just completed the renovation and beautification of the school, which included painting the inside. The school presented its annual Christmas pageant entitled: "Why Christmas," December 19, 1954 at 8:00 p.m. in the school auditorium. The Magnolia Elementary School and Staff wish to extend to you, "Seasons Greetings."

# New Postmaster For Calypso

Applications for the postmaster's job at Calypso must be in to the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C., not later than January 4, 1955, it was learned this week.

Written tests for the \$3,400 a year post will be given at Goldsboro the date of which has not yet been announced. Applicants to be considered must have reached their 21st birthday but must not have passed their 33rd birthday on the closing date for receipt of applications, according to the announcement. The applicant must also pass a rigid physical examination.

The vacancy was created by the retirement of C. R. Best, who was postmaster at Calypso for 30 years.

# Man Returned To State Hospital

Bessley Craft, a 30-year-old white man was returned to State Hospital Thursday morning. Craft was released from the state hospital for the insane to spend Christmas holidays with his family in Limestone township.

Wednesday night, Constable Hamp Cannady called Sheriff Miller to pick up Craft. He had tried to drink poison and they were fearful for his life. Craft has been a patient at the hospital for about a year and has previously been hospitalized there.

# Sheriffs Department Gets Two Stills

Wednesday afternoon, Deputy Bertis Fussell destroyed a 100 gallon still in Rose Hill township, near Tuts Lake. Along with the still were seven barrels of mash. No arrests were made.

Earlier in the week, Constable S. C. Dempsey, and deputies Boone and Houston destroyed a still in Rockfish township. The still was a 200 gallon submarine type. 28 barrels of mash were discovered on the scene, a number of the barrels had been buried and were blown up with dynamite.

# Pink Hill Contest Ends Christmas Eve

The Boys and Girls contest which has been on at Brewer's Rexall Drug Store in Pink Hill for the past six weeks came to a close Christmas eve with prizes being awarded the winners. During the 6 weeks period for every penny spent in the store a vote was allowed some one in the contest with Bonus votes on selected merchandise being given from time to time. Compiling the most votes in the boys contest was Gerald Pickett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jersey Pickett and the prize was a Deluxe bicycle.

Debbie Turner, young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Turner, won first prize in the girls race, which also was a bicycle. Hugh J. Smith, Jr., won an electric train as the runner-up in the boys contest. Johnny Turner received a Brownie Hawkeye Flash outfit as the next winner. Next in line was Sammy Jones, who won an airplane. Henry Clay Nobles won a tool set as fourth prize. Ronnie Holt, a Holster set for being fifth. Kenny Page, an outdoor set, was next and James Stroud received a road grader as the seventh prize.

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# Accident Report

The Weekly accident summary for Wayne, Sampson and Duplin counties for week of Dec. 20 through 26, 1954.

The figures correspond to this order: accidents, killed, injured and property damage.

Wayne: 8, 2, 1, \$4,675.00  
Duplin: 6, 0, 0, \$2,300.00  
Sampson: 5, 0, 4, \$1,000.00  
Total: 19, 2, 5, \$7,975.00.

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# Livestock And Meat Outlook Cited By USDA Economists

Drought and lower prices have brought hardships to cattlemen, most of them are riding out the storm, observe agricultural economists at Washington.

In their annual look at what lies ahead, the economists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, see reasonable stability with little change in prices for cattlemen for the year ahead. Despite a 10 per cent increase in calf and cattle slaughter during the first nine months of 1954 over 1953, the number of cattle on the nation's farms January 1, 1955, will be about the same as a year earlier. Any change will be small, and the cattle inventory will likely be about 95,000,000 head.

Consumer preference for lightweight cattle is expected to continue. Generally, producers to cut costs, since stable producers to cut costs, since the younger light-weight cattle usually use feed more efficiently than older, heavier animals. This trend keeps meat production from increasing proportionally with either marketing or slaughter.

The Department's report indicates that many producers in the cash-grain belt did not comply with their 1954 corn-croreage allotments. Also the moisture content of much

# Notice - Power Interruption Wednesday

Changes to be made in our Substation will necessitate a power interruption Wednesday afternoon, January 5, 1955, in eastern Duplin County, according to J. C. Maulsby, local manager for Carolina Power and Light Company.

Power will be off between 1:30 and 2:00 p.m. Wednesday afternoon, January 5, 1955. The area to be affected includes Kenansville, Hallsville, Beaulville and Chinquapin, beginning at Kirby's Feed Mill east of Warsaw to Oliver Sloan's Residence east of Lyman's Crossroads.

Maulsby explained that Wednesday afternoon was chosen as the time a power interruption is least likely to cause customers inconvenience.

Crews will take advantage of the outage, Maulsby added, to perform maintenance work that would be dangerous with lines energized.

The Navy probe the atmosphere 40 miles high above the North Pole for information on cosmic rays.

# Senator Kerr Scott Urges Farmers On Loan Applications

Senator W. Kerr Scott today urged North Carolina farmers to put in their applications for necessary Farmers Home Administration emergency loans "just as soon as possible."

The Senator said farmers in 59 Tar Heel counties are eligible for emergency FHA loans as a result of damages by Hurricane Hazel and last summer's prolonged drought.

The FHA, Scott said, will make emergency loans to farmers in the affected counties until December 31, 1955. However, he said it is mighty important to get applications in for such loans as soon as possible to insure needed funds for the 1955 crop year.

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