



Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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Eighth Annual Azalea Festival Gets Under Way

EDITORIAL

MUFF YOUR MUFFLERS

We don't care how you bust them just as long as you buff the sound out of them. Just stop and think a minute. You are driving along on the highway and a car comes screaming, puffing or mostly busting at your rear. How can a cautious driver be sensible then? The theory is that automobile manufacturers put adequate, silent, yet strong enough sounds on a muffler. So don't put the new gadgets, the wild gadgets, on your snuffler.

The State Highway Department in Duplin is giving ample warning that they are giving the public until April 9th to get their mufflers in order, after that date don't be surprised if you are stopped by a Patrolman and asked "why have you got this noisy thing on your car?" Just be a little more quiet and you won't get pulled. Information from State Highway Patrol.—J.R.G.

TAXES ON THE FARMER'S MUSTS

I'm not sure that I know economy but I know when you tax the little man too heavily with a thought of giving big business an excuse to expand you are hurting the economy of the people. I don't believe in saturating big business but when you saturate little business you are saturating the people.

Why add tax onto fertilizer, which produces the food on our table, and let cold drinks and other luxuries go untaxed? If we don't want to buy these luxuries we can leave them off but we cannot leave off our food. Where is the reasoning? I used to wear long cotton underwear. Now I wear modern underwear. If I don't have the money to pay for this modern underwear I can wear the old style. I lived just as well then as I do now.

The state is in a dither to find money. Well, find the money where it is. I'm reminded of Henry W. Grady's speech on "the New South". Give the common people a break and they will find the way. Trust the "common man" and life will allow. I think if we had listened to Governor Hodges in the beginning the problem may have been solved easier.—J. R. Grady.

O. P. HONORED AGAIN

Superintendent of Schools in Duplin, O. P. Johnson, last week, received another high honor at the state meeting of the NCEA at Asheville. He was elected president of the Division of Superintendents. Only a few days ago he was elected Vice President of the NCEA which is tantamount to election to the presidency. This only goes to show that Duplin can do things in a big way. We don't mean O. P. solicited this job, in fact we have our doubts that he even cherishes the idea but does indicate that North Carolina recognizes a leader when we have one. More power to you, O. P.—J.R.G.

V. R. MURPHY WILLIAMS

The Presbyterian Church, no, I'd better put it that the Protestant Churches in the Greensboro area, have lost a great minister. Dr. R. Murphy Williams died there. Though he was a Presbyterian he was loved by all denominations in Greensboro. I recall several years ago I was visiting in the home of some friends there, who were Methodists. One had been critically ill and told me that Rev. Mr. Williams was most attentive during the illness. She is dead now but her husband is still living. He told me that Rev. R. Murphy Williams did more good to the masses of of Greensboro than any man in the city.

Mr. Williams began his pastorate in Duplin County. See story elsewhere. He was father of Rev. R. Murphy Williams of the First Presbyterian Church in Wilson and Mrs. John D. Robinson of Wallace. He had other children, but at this writing I do not know who they were. His wife was sister of the late Bruce Boney of Wallace, father of I. B. Boney of Kenansville, and brother, Leslie N. Boney, Sr., of Wallace.

His first pastorate was of Wallace, Rockfish, Teachey and Mt. Zion (now Rose Hill) Presbyterian Churches. Although not a native son we accepted him as an adopted son of Duplin.—J. R. Grady

THE FREEZE, AND ITS POSSIBLE RESULTS

The freeze over the week-end has damaged many hopes in Eastern Carolina, especially the Azalea Festival scheduled for Wilmington this week end. A letter from Wilmington today states that the freeze has hurt the Azaleas but that Wilmington is still beautiful and folks will enjoy the sites during the week end.

Nature has hurt us this year but we must make the best of it. We, here in Duplin, may think we are suffering but think of the farmers in the Sand Hills who depend on peaches as we depend on tobacco. It has been suggested that farmers in Duplin who grow cotton, loan part of their allotment to the farmers in the Sand Hills. After all Duplin is no longer a major cotton growing county so we wonder if some of our cotton farmers might loan an allotment to some of the peach growers.

According to reports the tobacco plant bed damage is not over about 15 per cent. It appears that there will be plenty of tobacco plants for everyone. So we would suggest that we all be generous and try to help out our neighbors, though they be a hundred miles away.—J.R.G.

Prominent Greensboro Minister Dies

R. Murphy Williams Began In Duplin

Greensboro, March 27.—The Rev. R. Murphy Williams, retired pastor of the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, widely known and recognized as Greensboro's best known and best loved minister, died at Cone Memorial Hospital tonight at 8:17 p.m. after 10 days' illness. He was 68.

He was stricken at his home the night of March 17 after a day of hospital visiting, working in his garden, and fishing.

The funeral was held at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant by the pastor, Dr. Joseph M. Garrison and other ministers. Burial was in Green Hill Cemetery.

Although he was a Presbyterian preacher by ordination, his mission extended far beyond the membership of the church he built on Walker Avenue 45 years ago.

He was born in Cumberland Co., June 24, 1886, one of 12 children of Charles Judson Williams and Lou Murphy Williams. He attended Sampson County schools, then poorly equipped in the postwar period.

In 1901, he entered the Agricultural and Mechanical College (now State College) and completed work through the sophomore class. He transferred to Davidson College, where he was graduated in 1906. Following that training, he attended the Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va.

His first pastorate was in Wallace, where he served four churches, Wallace, Rock Fish, Teachey and Mt. Zion. During that time, on June 11, 1890, he was ordained. Later he was evangelist of the Wilmington Presbytery for two years.

He was called in 1906 to the Greensboro church, which then had 50 members. The church has expanded its physical plant and membership to more than 900 members. He is survived by the following children: Rev. R. Murphy Williams, Jr., of Wilson; Mrs. John D. Robinson of Wallace; Worth Williams of Greensboro and Mrs. Thomas (Mary Bailey) Davis of New Orleans, whose husband is a Presbyterian minister there.

Tobacco Plants And Peaches Are Damaged By Cold

Tobacco plants, peach trees and all truck crops were damaged by the cold wave which passed through North Carolina last week end.

Probably tobacco suffered less but farmers reveal that from 15 to 20 per cent damage was inflicted. Most of the damage was caused when canvass was blown loose and freezing winds allowed to hit the small plants.

Peach trees were damaged extensively, Luby Anderson, authority on peach production in this area, says the peach crop "is gone."

Some farmers with small orchards tried burning smudge pots but the freeze was too hard for the small and heat to make any difference.

Strawberries have also been damaged. It is not known to what extent. The same is true with garden peas and other garden vegetables which had broken through the ground.

It is believed that some corn will have to be replanted. Sand corn will be up to the extent that farmers are of the opinion that the grain will not break through the slick cover of sand after sprouting.

The Azalea Festival, in Wilmington, will be staged this week end with the parade Saturday morning at 11 a.m. The azaleas have been damaged but "the beauty of the plantations still can be seen."

School Of Dance To Present Program

The Kenansville School of Dance will present four seasons in song and dance, in the Kenansville High School Auditorium, Monday evening April 4. The program will start at 8 o'clock and is being sponsored by the Parent - Teachers Association.

Admission will be 25 and 50 cents.

"Juvenile Minstrel" To Be Presented At Warsaw School On April 7th

On Thursday evening, April 7th the Warsaw Rhythm Class under the direction of Mrs. W. W. Garner will present a Revue in the Warsaw High School auditorium at 8 o'clock.

The theme of the Revue will be a Rehearsal for a Minstrel Show. Forty (40) students in their colorful costumes will appear in dances, songs and skits which will be an attraction to the audience as well as laughs.

The Warsaw Business and Professional Women's Club is sponsoring the Revue, and are pleased to have these talented students to appear before the public in their musical rhythm. The admission will be 25c for school children and 50c for adults.



FIRST WHITE BABY born in Duplin General Hospital is Mercheson Dunn Usher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Usher of Rose Hill. Dr. Matthews of Rose Hill made the delivery. The baby weighed 8 pounds and 10 ounces. He is the 9th child. His father is 63 years old and his mother 29. Mrs. Usher is the former Doris Stroud, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Stroud of Rose Hill. Mrs. Stroud was married at the age of 19. It appears that the Duplin General Hospital has good future prospects, doesn't it? The nurse in the scene is Mrs. Reynolds of Kenansville.—Photo by Bob Grady.

Duplin Sheriff's Department Is Busy Making Arrest And Destroying Still

Duplin County Sheriff's Department has had its hands full recently.

A 150 gallon submarine - type liquor still has been destroyed near Teachey. After deputies destroyed the still, searches in the woods revealed 35 one-half gallon jars of illegal liquor. No arrests were made.

Deputies W. O. Houston, T. E. Revell, and Constables W. C. Hill and Ward Carlton destroyed a 75 gallon still with eight barrels of mash near Maxwell's Mill, in Smith Township, over the week end.

In raids near Hillsville, Sheriff Ralph Miller, Deputies Houston and Douglas Shiver arrested Ed Houston for possessing non-tax paid whiskey for the purpose of resale.

Search of the area surrounding Houston's house uncovered about 2 gallons of liquor and several pint bottles of whiskey.

He is out of jail on a \$200 bond.

Sam Williams, James Henry Bryant, and Smith Bryant are out of Duplin jail today on \$200 bond after admitting to law enforcement officers that the liquor they possessed was non-tax paid for the purpose of resale. They lived in the Hillsville section.

A Report On Sam Byrd

A report from Mrs. Thurman Hussey of Seven Springs on Sam Byrd is as follows:

"Think some of our readers will be interested in a late report I have had on Sam Byrd. At present he is again in Duke Hospital, where he is being treated by his doctor with a very new drug, in fact he is the 12th patient to be given it. He is in good spirits and full of plans. Although he did have a sudden drop in blood count on Saturday night a week ago. They gave him a transfusion hurriedly and his folks were notified. On Sunday he was feeling much better. Hope you all keep your fingers crossed and how about some prayers? — it helps a fellow fight."

N. C. Brick Production Sets New Record

Brick production in North Carolina climbed to an all-time high during 1954 according to statistics of the United States Department of Commerce as reported in the Bureau of Census publication "Facts for Industry."

Total 1954 production for all N. C. plants was listed at 487 million bricks, a gain of about 6 per cent over the previous year, thereby setting an all-time record for the state which has come to be known as the Brick Capital of the Nation.

Spokesman for the local industry pointed out that they are not at all satisfied with their 6 per cent gain, but in view of the 5 per cent drop in building permits from 1953 to 1954 reported by the North Carolina Department of Labor, any increase tends to substantiate the claims of the Tar Heel brick makers that preference for the product is on the increase.

It is reported that six manufacturers over the state are now rushing to completion costly expansion programs involving new tunnel kilns in order to meet the growing demand for North Carolina brick in the variety of textures and patterns now available.

Duplin Basket Ball Tournament Clears \$1430.83; Divided Among Schools

A breakdown of the receipts and expenses of Duplin County Basketball Tournament follows:

RECEIPTS:		264.25
18 Feb.	.....	351.75
21 Feb.	.....	474.60
23 Feb.	.....	518.50
25 Feb.	.....	615.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS		2224.50
EXPENSES:		
Referees	.....	330.00
Tickets	.....	5.00
2 ticket punchers & 6 stamp pads	.....	6.85
Telephone calls	.....	13.00
1 set nets	.....	4.50
Laundry on towels	.....	5.00
Faison High School (calls)	.....	2.00
Henry Moore	.....	15.00
W. M. Ingram	.....	16.00
Jim White	.....	4.00
Rosie Hardison	.....	20.00
Byron Teachey	.....	20.00
A. Tanner	.....	35.00
Electric Service	.....	35.00
Trophies	.....	297.52
TOTAL EXPENSES		793.67

Receipts of 2224.50 less expenses of 793.67 leaves a balance of 1430.83. This amounts to 143.08 per school.

Irrigation Demonstration Milton West Farm

BY V. H. REYNOLDS
County Agent

A Demonstration on Irrigation will be held on Mr. Milton West's Farm 1 mile East of Warsaw, at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, April 4.

Mr. H. M. Ellis, who is in charge of Agricultural Engineering Extension Work at State College, will conduct the demonstration.

All of the major irrigation equipment distributors in North Carolina will have irrigation equipment on display. One complete system will be set up and demonstrated.

Farmers need to know as much about irrigation and irrigation equipment as possible before they invest money in it. The purpose of this demonstration is to give farmers information that will help them decide whether or not they want to buy irrigation equipment and if so how to buy.

To get to Mr. West's Farm from Warsaw, take Highway 24 towards Kenansville, to Bradshaw's store near Warsaw Town Limits. Take road to the left of Bradshaw's store and go about 1 mile to pasture and pond beside road.

All people interested in irrigation are urged to attend.

Calypso American Legion Completes New Hut; Estimated Cost Is \$4,500

Calypso American Legion will occupy its new "home" Wednesday night when a big round and square dance will be held.

The structure cost approximately \$4,500 and is 40 feet by 60 feet.

Norwood Brogden, Post Commander, said most of the work was done by members of the organization. "In addition to our members saving us money, the workers we had to employ to lay the blocks donated one day of their labor," he said.

The main auditorium has a hardwood floor and will be used for roller skating in addition to dancing.

Brogden points out that "This building is to serve as a community center. We have worked hard and for a long time for such a building in Calypso and we are proud of it."

A kitchen, 15 by 18 feet, is to be constructed at the rear of the new structure in the near future. Calypso American Legion was organized in 1946. Soon after that time, an abandoned service station, on highway 117, was purchased from Legion member, B. C. Albritton.

From the beginning the organization wanted to have a structure such as it now has. Over the years, through various money-raising drives, approximately \$2,500 was raised.

This money was used to pay for materials and labor. The remaining \$2,000 was borrowed.

Purvy Davis, who was foreman of the block-laying asked his men to contribute part of their time, a day's labor, and each did so.

"We are encouraging the youth of the Calypso section to use the building," Brogden said. "Too, any worthy organization desiring to use the Legion facilities can do so."

B. C. Albritton, who has been instrumental in the Post becoming a success, is at present serving as District Nine Commander of the American Legion.

Warsaw Girl On Dean's List

Miss Ann Bowden, daughter of Mrs. S. R. Bowden of Warsaw, and a senior at Florial Macdonald, was named on the dean's list for the first semester, recently released. This requires a grade average of 90 to 94.

Miss Bowden, who will receive her bachelor of arts degree in elementary education in May, is vice president of the senior class; recorder of points for the student body; has been on the staff of the college newspaper, "The Skirl"; vice-president of the French club; member of several other students clubs, including the Math club and William Bartram Scientific society, both of which require a high grading in scientific subjects.

Total Bonds Sales For Duplin Are Listed

E. C. Thompson, U. S. Savings Bonds Chairman for Duplin County today announced the purchase of Series E and H Savings Bonds totaling \$22,762.50 during the month of February. This brings the Savings Bonds sales total for the January and February period to \$53,118.75 which represents 16.0 per cent of the county's 1955 quota.

A monthly sales report compiled in the Greensboro Savings Bonds office of Walter P. Johnson and released by State Chairman of U. S. Savings Bonds Advisory Committee, W. H. Andrews, Jr., showed that sales during January and February for the entire state amounted to \$10,637,617.50 which is an 18 per cent achievement toward the 1955 state quota and a 21 per cent increase over 1954.

Miss Shane had a career as a fashion model in New York before moving to Hollywood. It was through chain store heir Huntington Hartford that she met her husband William Hollingsworth, a California realtor and socialite.

Photographs of Sara Shane have appeared on the covers of many motion picture and television publications, and she is currently shown modeling Bermuda shorts in a full page color picture in March 21 issue of Sports Illustrated Magazine.

Though some girls might think that life had nothing else to offer after experiencing Sara's thrill of being cast in a role opposite Rock Hudson in "Magnificent Obsession", Sara looks forward with unbounded enthusiasm to her first visit to N. C. and to playing her role as Azalea Queen.

She also anticipates excitement in a few hours of sight-seeing in Washington en route to Wilmington. Sara is a much-travelled young lady, but she says she has never seen the nation's capital — except in the movies.



Screen Star Sara Shane Eighth Azalea Festival Queen

Sara Shane, lovely Hollywood actress seen in Universal - International's "Magnificent Obsession" and countless television productions, has been selected Azalea Queen for the Eighth Annual Wilmington Azalea Festival.

A native of St. Louis, Mo., and now a resident of fashionable Beverly Hills, Miss Shane is five feet six, has blue-green eyes and honey blonde hair.

Tentative plans have Queen Sara arriving at Wilmington's airport at 12:12 pm Thursday afternoon, March 31, after an overnight stay in Washington, en route from Hollywood. She will remain in Wilmington for all of the elaborate Festival activities, and will end her reign late Sunday, April 3 when she awards the prizes in the \$12,500 PGA Azalea Open Golf Tournament.

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Correction

The Times regrets that the legal notice entitled "Notice of Sale" in the matter of Margaret H. Wolfe to R. L. Coburn, trustee, published last week and this week in the Times was in error. The Times takes the responsibility. J. R. Grady

TO THE LIVING FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS A VITAL MESSAGE FROM THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

"Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind..."

The Rev. John Donne, noted English poet and philosopher, so wrote in his "Devotions," published in 1624. Then this wise man added that which is now more familiar to us: "...and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

Bells will toll at 1 p.m. (E.S.T.) Friday, April 1, through out the nation, to signal the formal opening of the 1955 fund raising Crusade of the American Cancer Society. They will toll on a note of both solemnity and hopefulness for those living who — through our joint efforts in this Crusade — all will be saved.

Let us all heed the words of John Donne this day and throughout April; let us not further diminish ourselves. Heed the bells. They toll for Duplin County — They toll for you.

Bowden Girl Makes Dean's List

Miss Doris Moringo, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Blalock of Bowden, and a member of the senior class at Floria Macdonald college, was named on the dean's list for the first semester, recently released. This requires a grade average of 90 to 94.

Miss Moringo, who will receive her bachelor of science degree in home economics in May, has made an excellent record at Floria Macdonald. In addition to good scholastic work, she has been prominent in a number of extra-curricular activities.

Her junior year she was a marshal on the Zetesian society, and is Zetesian vice president this year and president of the home ec club her junior year. This year she is one of the three seniors on the May Court.

27th District Meeting Home Dem. Clubs Be Held Here April 14th

The 27th District Meeting of the North Carolina Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs will be held on April 14th in the Kenan Auditorium, Kenansville with registration beginning at 10:00 a. m.

Mr. Fulton Hodge, an International Foreign Youth 4-H Exchange Student, of Shelby, N. C. will be guest speaker Mrs. David Williams of Rockfish Club, the Presiding Officer, and Mrs. A. B. Lanier of Rose Hill Club, Secretary, are in charge of the meeting which comprises Cumberland, Sampson and Duplin Counties.

Club Discusses Framing Pictures

The Miller Home Demonstration Club met this week with Mrs. John Miller as hostess.

A demonstration, "Framing Pictures For The Home," was given by House Furnishings Leader, Mrs. Bland Rhodes. "Pictures should be judged and selected with care just as clothing, pieces of furniture and other things in the home," says Mrs. Rhodes.

Mrs. John Miller, Community Service Leader, urged the Women to help with community activities.

Home Poultry, Care of Baby Chicks, was discussed by the group. Mrs. Flave Mercer lead the devotional.