

# Duplin Times



Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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## Duplin Tax Collections Indicate Good Year

### K. P. C. Collections Reported Good

by Paul Barwick

There's an old saying that when times become too hard taxes are the last thing people pay. If that is used as a yardstick, Duplin County folks are doing pretty good. At least the "recession" which has hit with a bang in some sections has not come to Duplin County. Harry Phillips, Duplin Tax Collector, reports that in January 1957, tax collections totaled \$50,340.89. In 1958, January tax collections were \$54,817.44. Just in case there are those who say January was a freak, February shows differently. In February of 1957, tax collections totaled \$39,025.98. In February 1958, tax collections in Duplin County hit an all-time high of \$49,426.62 for that month. In 1957 when adverse weather conditions were the rule rather than the exception, farmers in Duplin came out pretty good. Garland King at Kenansville Production Credit Association pointed out that despite a bad crop year, 95 per cent of the loans made were collected. One of the big factors in this being true is that Duplin farmers have turned to other farm enterprises other than tobacco as a means of income. Broiler production, turkey production, and truck cropping have had a lot to do with Duplin prosperity in the past couple years. County Agent Vernon Reynolds points out that the annual gross income to Duplin Farmers from tobacco is about \$13,000,000. Broilers (or poultry) will bring into Duplin County in '58 a gross of approximately \$10,000,000 and it could exceed that amount. It has been said by some of the leading broiler promoters in Duplin that there are enough houses under construction at present to house 1,000,000 broilers five times a year. This would yield an additional 5,000,000 broilers and the more income. When a processing plant is established in Duplin County it will provide employment for several of those people who have been hit by lay-offs from jobs during the current "recession". One processing plant in Duplin County could mean employment for from 100 to 200 people, depending on the size of the plant. Duplin has much for which to be thankful and it's pointed out by the fact that tax collections are up and loan collections are good. So Duplin can look forward in 1958 rather than backwards.



ADDITIONAL PARKING - Since the Cliffs above was a new parking area which has been added since last year, it adds 150 additional parking spaces. Enlargement and resurfacing of the parking area cost \$26,000.

(Photo by Paul Barwick)

## Festival Includes Parade, Fireworks, Dancing Harness Racing, Folk Music, Garden Tours, Art And Exhibit, Community Worship Service



Queen Azalea XI - Esther Williams

Movie star Esther Williams will reign as queen of the 1958 Azalea Festival in Wilmington on March 27-30. The lovely Miss Williams will officiate at Festival events. She will be crowned at a Coronation Pageant on Saturday evening, March 29.

From Wilmington Star News: Lovely Esther Williams, famed as a swimmer and talented actress - will be Queen Azalea XI of the eleventh annual Wilmington Azalea Festival, March 27-30. The coronation of the curvaceous movie star was announced Saturday by the Festival Committee. Miss Williams, who is known as "the world's most popular actress," will begin her four-day reign on Thursday, March 27. As queen, she will officiate at all festival events through Sunday, March 30. She will be crowned at a Coronation Pageant on Saturday evening, March 29.

The lovely star will have a court of honor made up of Tar Heel beauties. The court will be composed of May Queens from North Carolina's leading colleges and universities. Miss Williams, who was appeared in 22 motion pictures, has gained fame as an actress, swimmer and civic leader in the film capital. She began her swimming career at the age of eight in her hometown Los Angeles. By the time she was 15, she had established world winning records and she later was star in the Aquanade at the San Francisco World's Fair.

Wilmington, N. C. - Brilliant displays of multi-hued azaleas and a varied program of entertainment will highlight Wilmington's renowned Azalea Festival on March 27-30. Several innovations have been planned for the 1958 Festival. One is the selection of a Festival King who will rule along with Queen Azalea XI. Another addition to the program is a second coronation pageant. Final plans for the City's 11th Festival are nearing completion. The schedule for the four-day event includes an hour-long parade, fireworks, harness racing, folk music jamboree, street dancing garden tours, and outdoor art exhibit, coronation pageants and dances, and a community worship service. The 1958 Festival again coincides with the Azalea Open Golf Tournament and top golfing stars will be competing for \$15,000 in prize money. Arnold Palmer is the defending champion in the Professional Golfers' Association - sanctioned tournament. It will be held March 28-30, with 18 holes of play on each of the first two days and the 36-hole final on Sunday. Many stars and dignitaries will be special guests at the Festival. They will represent many fields of

entertainment. The big star of the Festival, however, is the azalea. By Festival-time the plants are expected to be in full bloom throughout the area. A minor percentage of the late-blooming plants were damaged by recent freezes, but all or the majority of the early varieties withstood the cold without apparent damage. Colorful displays of azaleas can be seen in the gardens and plantations in and near Wilmington the last of March and the first part of April. These include Orton Plantation, Airlie Gardens, Greenfield Gardens, and Pleasant Oaks Plantation. Also the City of a Million Azaleas becomes a real Azaleas Capital when plants in street plaza yard, and private gardens add color to nature's tribute to spring. The Festival program will open on Thursday, March 27, with the arrival of dignitaries and guests. Large crowds assemble at the airport to welcome these visitors. On Thursday evening the program includes a fireworks display, street dance, folk music jamboree, and harness racing. The Azalea Open Golf Tournament begins on Friday. Other events that day are guided garden tours, outdoor art exhibit, the Teen-Age Azalea Ball, and the King's coronation pageant. In previous years capacity crowds witnessed the coronation of the Queen and many persons had to be turned away. The 1958 schedule will include the coronation pageant for the King on Friday night and a Queen's coronation pageant on Saturday evening. Two different shows are planned. On Saturday the golfers will again compete on the Cape Fear Country Club course. During the morning the famous Azalea Festival parade will be staged in downtown Wilmington. The day will be climaxed by the Queen's coronation pageant and the Coronation Ball. The final day's program features garden tours, the finals of the golf tournament, and the community worship service. Other events are being planned and a complete schedule will be announced later. Festival officials are expected to announce soon the selection of a Festival Queen as well as other special guests.

## "Hurricane Hazel" Kennedy Again In Clutches Of The Law; Abandons 9 Months Old Grand Child



Dr. Elmo B. Scoggin



Kenneth W. Turner  
Chairman Board of Elections

Hazel Southernland Kennedy, "Hurricane Hazel" was arrested and jailed early Friday morning and was charged with abandoning her nine month old grand-daughter. Previous calls had come in to Sheriff Miller to pick up Hazel who was in a drunken condition. Thursday night she was seen carrying the child in her arms. When arrested at 5 a. m. Friday morning the baby was not with her. Later the baby was found near a trash pile at the Beaulville Drive in Theater. The baby was turned over to her mother, who resides in the Cedar Fork community. Hazel had cared for the child since soon after its birth. A hearing was held Wednesday before Justice of the Peace, Gordon Muldrow. She was placed under a \$500 bond, signed by her husband, Gurman Kennedy. She will be tried April 29.

### Sharon Baptist Revival Services

John I. Durham, pastor of Sharon Baptist Church announced today that Dr. Elmo B. Scoggin would be the guest minister for the Spring Revival Services to be held Sunday evening, March 30, through Easter Sunday Morning, April 6, at the Sharon Church in Chinquapin.

Dr. Scoggin is at present professor of Old Testament at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, though he has served with distinction as a pastor in Kentucky and Florida and as a missionary to Israel from 1949-1955. He is much in demand as one of the truly outstanding speakers among Southern Baptist today, and Sharon Church is honored to have him for this special series of meetings and to afford the people of our area the opportunity of hearing him. We feel that his messages will mean a great deal to all who hear him.

The evening services, Sunday through Saturday, will be at 7:30 P. M. The Easter Sunday Service will be at 1:00 A. M. The Sharon Senior Choir will lead in special music at each, with a special arrangement of Easter Hymns at the Sundry Morning service.

"Old Saw Rewritten: If a man makes a better mousetrap, the Internal Revenue Service will beat a path to his door." - Changing Times

### More Candidates File For Election In May Primary

Kenneth W. Turner, chairman of the Duplin Board of Elections, announced today names of all candidates who have filed for election in the coming Democratic primary. The latest candidates to file are: William E. "Pot" Craft, of Kenansville for solicitor; Garland Kennedy, Wallace for coroner and justice of peace for Island Creek Township; E. Hamp Kennedy, for Constable of Limestone Township; and R. V. Wells, Kenansville, Clerk of Superior Court.

Others who have filed are: Ralph Miller, Beaulville, for sheriff; Hugh S. Johnson, Jr., Rose Hill, House of Representatives; M. H. "Bob" White Wallace, Justice of Peace for Island Creek Township; Claude L. Helper, Wallace, County Board of Education; Grady Mercer, Beaulville, State Senate; Russell J. Lanier, Beaulville, solicitor; David Henderson, Wallace, County Judge; Leon Brown, Lyman, Commissioner for District 3; W. J. Middleton, Warsaw, Justice of Peace; H. F. Lee, Warsaw, Justice of Peace; J. W. Hoffer, Wallace, Commissioner for District 4; Emmett E. Kelly, Commissioner for District 2; Gordon S. Muldrow, J. P.; Limestone; Wm. F. Dail, Chinquapin, Board of Education; Cecil D. McCullen, J. P.

### Wells Home From Far East

Lieut. (j. g.) Alfred D. Wells has returned to the States from the Far East aboard the Aircraft carrier, U. S. Princeton. He has been released to inactive duty after serving four years as a pilot in the Naval Air Force.

While in the Far East, Lieut. Wells entered ports in Hawaii, Japan, Hong Kong, Philippines, Okinawa, Singapore and Ceylon. He participated in dropping food to the people of Ceylon during the recent flood disaster. Lieut. Wells plans to enter the Graduate School at the University of North Carolina in June. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh M. Wells of B. F. Grady School of Albertson.

### Federal Crop Insurance Now Available; Farmers Urged To Act Now

Applications are now being received for Federal Crop Insurance, according to Mrs. Lockamy, secretary of the local office. She urges every farmer to insure his crops against damage or failure. Visit the local Federal Crop Insurance office in the Agriculture Building just as early as possible. Nature doesn't warn you ahead of time; to be insured is to be prepared. Faison; N. L. Tadlock Constable; Calypso; and Graham Chestnut, Constable; Magnolia.

### Ralph Cottle Is Suicide Victim

Ralph Frederick Cottle committed suicide Saturday in a wooded area in Wallace near the home of Robert Piner, with whom he was visiting. The strange thing about the suicide is that Cottle is really a stranger. Little is known about him. Since he had military identification on his body when found, military authorities have been called in. Cottle's body has been turned over to the military for identification and location of nearest of kin.

Duplin Coroner Garland Kennedy has ruled suicide and said no inquest would be necessary. Local authorities investigating the case were Wallace Police Chief Earl Whitaker and Duplin County Chief Deputy Norwood Boone.

### Fisherman's Bait Co. Opens in Rose Hill

Spring is here and fishermen are getting their fishing tackle in readiness for those leisurely hours in the streams or surf. This year a new business has opened which should be of interest to the tackle fans, it is the Fisherman's Bait Company, located at Rose Hill. The new business is owned and operated by L. A. Wilson of Rose Hill. Mr. Wilson states that he can supply any form of bait fresh or salt water fishing and guarantees live delivery.

### Irrigation Discussion Be Held In Ag.

A meeting to discuss irrigation and irrigation equipment will be held in the Agriculture Building in Kenansville on April 2 at 2:00 p. m. Mr. James D. Netherton, Agriculture Extension Specialist from State College, will discuss the care of irrigation equipment. It will be tobacco setting time in a few weeks and farmers may need the irrigation equipment then. It is important that the equipment is checked now to see if it is in proper operating condition. All farmers who have irrigation equipment or plan to buy irrigation equipment this year or any other people who are interested in irrigation are urged to attend this meeting.

### Notes From Our County Agent

By V. F. REYNOLDS  
TOPDRESSING PERMANENT PASTURES  
County Agent Vernon H. Reynolds, says that now is the time to topdress permanent pastures. The only sure way of finding out if you need to topdress and what kind of fertilizer to use, he says, is by getting your soil tested. He points out that clovers, and grasses remove a lot of potash and smaller amounts of phosphorus. Continued On Next Page Section 1



Boat Tour Of Azalea Displays During Wilmington's Festival. The azalea displays at Greenfield Garden are located along the banks of Greenfield Lake. The boat Cypress Queen takes visitors on a tour of the lake.

### Uncle Pete From Chittlin Switch

Civil War come and went, railroads was built, Dan McGrew was shot, more and bigger wars come and went, telephones, televisions, jets, electric razors, but the Smith Brothers hold fast. Last week up in upstate New York the directors had a meeting and decided it couldn't go on forever. It was a sad day. About the same time in downstate New York, Sophie Tucker, known everywhere as "the last Buffalo roamed the prairies, the nickel. The year gold was discovered in California these brothers put their beards together and set the price of their cough remedy at a nickel. Smith Brothers cough drops went from a nickel to a dime. That was the last stronghold of the American

# Azalea Festival Begins Today In Wilmington