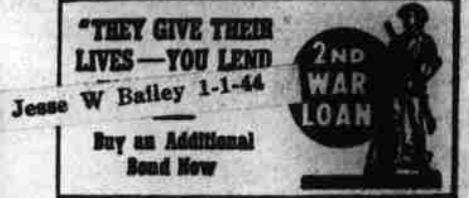


"THEY GIVE THEIR LIVES --- YOU LEND YOUR MONEY"

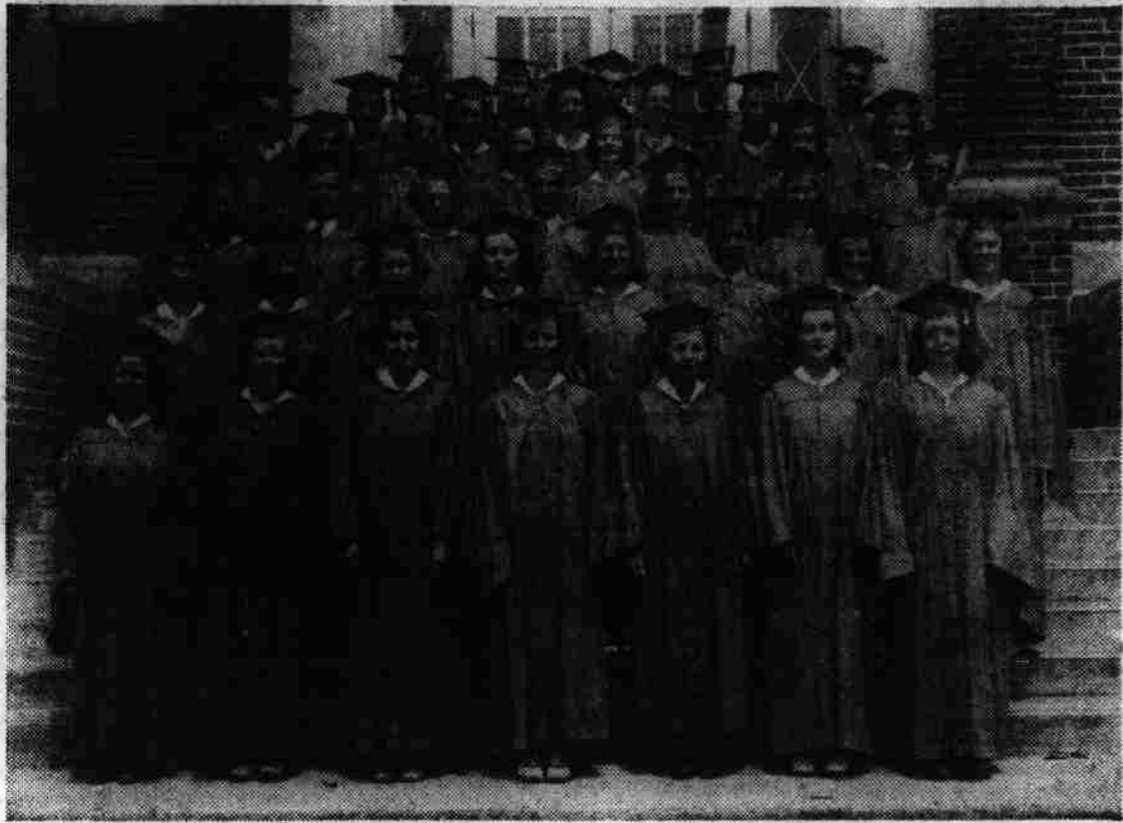


# Johnstonian-Sun



VOL. 26 SELMA, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1943. Single Copy 5c NUMBER 21

## SELMA GRADUATING CLASS



**SENIORS**—Reading from left to right, front row: Annie Hood Hughes, Lottie Mae McDuffy, Frances Branch, Kathleen Starling, Myrtle Thompson, Elgie Rose, Florence Underhill; Second row: Lillian Parrish, Lois Starling, Josephine Strickland, Pauline Avera, Jean Phillips, Walton Coley, Lois Barbour, Marguerite Godwin; Third row: Louise Whitley, Billy Ferrell, Helen Barnes, Theodore Arquer, Jr., Louise Brown, Christine Carter, Hilliard Jernigan; Fourth row: Richard Byrd, Elva Fields, Charles Fulghum, Jr., Mabel Broadwell, Hilda Pulley, Bobby Edwards, June Jones, Ruth Lene Batten; Fifth row: George Lane, Heywood Younger, Ruby Leah Whitley, Estelle Bailey, Ruffin Wilson, Charles Underhill, Radford Holland; Sixth row: Alton Woodruff, James Poole, Graham Batten, Hubert Rose, Annie Grey Moore and Betty Jo Knott were absent when the picture was taken.

## Smithfield Minister Talks to Graduates

The Rev. C. L. Gillespie, pastor of Smithfield Baptist church, delivered the baccalaureate address to the Selma high school graduates on Monday evening at 8 o'clock, when 41 graduates were awarded diplomas.

Like most other school closings this year, Selma's commencement exercises were streamlined in order that as much as possible could be crowded into one program, thereby saving gas and tires for emergency driving.

The speaker was introduced by O. A. Tuttle, principal of the school after which the speaker addressed a capacity audience on "Youth and the World." Mr. Gillespie said he realized that he had chosen a big subject, but before he had finished speaking, his audience were fully reminded that the youth of the world today have a much larger task—that of winning the war.

The speaker said "we older people think the youth are too inexperienced and not settle-minded enough to run the business affairs of this world, and youth looks on old age as just a bunch of old fools." He said he had always admired the youth of the land and pinned his faith in them. While the governing powers are unwilling to entrust the power of control to youth, they are now very willing and ready to entrust to them the power to fight and die to save democracy in the world, thereby admitting that their experience and advanced years would not do the job.

Following the address by Mr. Gillespie, Miss Anne Hood Hughes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Hughes of Selma, delivered the valedictory message. Miss Hughes completed four years of high school work with the exceptional average of 94.8.

Diplomas were presented by J. C. Diehl, member of the Selma school board, to the following members of the senior class:

Anne Hood Hughes, Lottie Mae McDuffy, Frances Branch, Kathleen Starling, Myrtle Thompson, Elgie Rose, Florence Underhill, Lillian Parrish, Lois Starling, Josephine Strickland, Pauline Avera, Jean Phillips, Walton Coley, Lois Barbour, Marguerite Godwin, Louise Whitley, Billy Ferrell, Helen Barnes, Theodore Arquer, Jr., Louise Brown, Hilliard Jernigan, Richard Byrd, Elva Fields, Mabel Broadwell, Charles Fulghum, Jr., Hilda Pulley, June Jones, Ruth Lene Batten, George Lane, Heywood Younger, Ruby Leah Whitley, Estelle Bailey, Ruffin Wilson, Charles Underhill, Radford Holland, Alton Woodruff, James Poole, Graham Batten, Hubert Rose, Annie Grey Moore, Betty Jo Knott, and A. V. Driver.

## Rev. Mr. Houston Is Selma Kiwanis Speaker

Members of the Selma Kiwanis club were privileged to hear a very fine talk on last Thursday evening, delivered by the Rev. B. H. Houston, pastor of the Smithfield Methodist church. He was introduced by Kiwanian L. T. Hedgpeth, who had charge of the program.

The speaker devoted most of his address to telling about the people of South America, he having spent considerable time among our neighbors to the south of us several years ago. Mr. Houston said we need not get the idea that we are the smartest people in the world, or that we have the finest country in the world, however smart we may be or how fine a country we may have—and here he emphasized the fact that we do have a fine country, and a smart people—but speaking of the people of South America, he said they speak of it as "America" and that they speak of us as those Americans to the north of us, but he said they are correct in stating that they were Americans before we were, since that term was first applied to that continent to the south of us.

Speaking of the people of South America, Mr. Houston said they are the most kind and hospitable people he has ever seen; and that they are never too busy to stop you on the street and ask about your family and your business, and wish you well. "They will lay their arm about your neck and shoulder and ask you many questions about your personal welfare before going on their way," said the speaker. "And they are smart, too," he declared; and as for the country, "it is one of the beauty spots of the world, and has some of the finest harbors and cities I have ever seen anywhere."

## Community Bible School Is Planned For Kenly

Plans have been completed for a Community Bible School to begin at the Kenly Presbyterian Church on Monday, May 24, and continue until Friday, June 4, with the Rev. Howard F. Newman as director.

All churches in Kenly are cooperating in this school, which promises to be one of the largest and best ever undertaken there.

School will start at 9:30 and end at 11:30 each morning, Monday through Friday of each week.

Mr. Newman is an enthusiastic worker among young people, and with the cooperation of the other religious groups in Kenly, there should be no doubt as to the success of this school.

## Roy Lee Ingram Gets Science Degree

Roy Lee Ingram, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Ingram of Manassas, N. C., arrived home Tuesday of last week from the University of Oklahoma.

At this institution, Mr. Ingram, who is a graduate of Selma High School and the University of North Carolina, was recently awarded his Master of Science degree in Geology as the culmination of two years of study during which time he established for himself the enviable record of having made all "A's".

During the past year Ingram was president of the Graduate Men's Club and vice president of the Oklahoma chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, national geological fraternity. His geologist thesis "An Experimental Study of the Influence of Grain-size on the Size of Oscillation Ripples-Marks," is soon to be published in the Journal of Sedimentary Petrology.

Mr. Ingram will remain home with his parents until June 21, at which time he is to report as an aviation cadet in Aerial Photography at Denver, Colorado, where after three months of training he will be commissioned a second Lieutenant in the army air corps.

Mr. Ingram arrived in Selma Wednesday afternoon to spend the week end here with his brother, Mr. Ross Ingram.

## Former Selma Boy Now 2nd Electrician's Mate

W. E. Branch, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Branch of Goldsboro, former residents of Selma, has recently been promoted to the rank of Second Electrician's Mate in the U. S. Coast Guard. He is stationed at Georgetown, S. C. The young man is a Goldsboro high school graduate in the class of '39. He enlisted April 22, 1942, and completed his basic training at Curtis Bay, Md., in six weeks, shortening the usual three months of basic training because of the experience he had received when he had been employed with the Southern Bell Telephone company before entering the service.

## First Lt. Glenn Grier, Jr. Promoted To Captain

First Lieut. Glenn Grier, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Grier of Smithfield, has been promoted from the rank of First Lieutenant to that of Captain. Young Grier entered the Army as a draftsman on September 15, 1941. His many friends consider his advancement to captain in less than 20 months an evidence that he is working hard and enjoying it.

George Capps, who has been in the Navy for the past four and a half years, is visiting his mother, Mrs. Sidney Eason. This is George's first visit home since joining the Navy.

## Jobs Now Limited To Distance From Work

Employers Forbidden to Hire Workers Outside Commuting Areas Without Obtaining A Permit To Do So.

Washington, May 15.—Employers in three Eastern states and the District of Columbia today were forbidden to hire persons living beyond "normal commuting distance" of their establishments without approval of the United States Employment Service. War Manpower officials indicated that the restriction eventually will become nation-wide.

An order from Leo R. Werts, acting regional director of the War Manpower Commission's Region No. 4, also forbade shifts from employment in one essential industry to another without a "statement of availability" from the employer or from the USES. Workers, however, may shift from a non-essential to an essential industry in the same community without a release.

Included in Region No. 4 are the District of Columbia, Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, and North Carolina. However, Maryland and the Hampton Roads-Norfolk section of Virginia were exempted from the general order. Werts explained that local job-control programs already are in effect in those areas. A separate program for Washington, D. C., also is being worked out, but, meantime the general order applies there.

Those Exempted. Exempted from the order are state and local governments, domestic servants, employers of fewer than eight employees, and casual employment which is defined as work lasting 15 days or less.

Availability Statement. Under the regulation, a worker is entitled to a statement of availability when:

1. Discharged by his last employer.
2. Laid off for an indefinite period or for a period of seven days or more.
3. He can establish that his present employment does not utilize him at his highest skill or that he is not being employed full time.
4. He has "reasonable" personal reasons for seeking employment.

A statement also may be issued if it is established that the change of employment will aid in prosecution of the war.

If denied a statement of availability, the worker may appeal to the area-manpower director of the regional director. Employers also may appeal the granting of a statement by the USES.

The new stabilization plan became effective in North Carolina at 12:01 o'clock Saturday, May 15.

## Two Soldiers Taken On Desertion Charge

Pvt. James M. Smith, 22, was arrested Monday night by Policemen Bradley Pearce and Red Jones at his home six miles north of Selma on a charge of desertion.

Smith, since enlisting in the Army two years ago, has been arrested several times for desertion, and once for breaking and entering Green's store, seven miles north of Selma.

He was placed in the city jail until Tuesday when officers from Seymour Johnson Field, Goldsboro, came for him.

Officers Pearce and Jones on Sunday evening nabbed Pvt. William J. Sullivan, 17, in Selma, who was also charged with desertion. He has been AWOL from a camp in Arkansas since April 25. He was sent to Seymour Johnson Field also.

## Selma Youth Injured In North Africa Area

The following message was received by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wilkins of Selma at noon Thursday from the War Department:

"Deeply regret to inform you that your son, Pvt. Charlie V. Wilkins, was wounded seriously in action on April 23rd in the North African area. Reports of condition expected every 15 days. You will be advised as reports are received."

Wilkins, who is 23 years of age, joined the Army at the age of 16. He spent one year at Fort Bragg before being transferred to Fort Knox, Ky. He was with a tank division in North Africa.

## Reported Missing

Mrs. W. M. Ferguson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Woodall of Benson, received word from the War Department last Friday that her husband was reported missing about twenty days ago. No further details were given.

## Grey Staples Found Drowned In Holt Lake

### MAY QUEEN



GERTRUDE HUDSON

It has long been a custom in many lands to celebrate the in-coming of May by a festival with dancing on the green. Wednesday, May fifth, such a festival was held on the Selma school campus under the direction of Miss Helena Blue. The queen, Gertrude Hudson, and her court were elected by the student body of the high school to reign over the festivities. The maid-of-honor was Elva Louise Fields and the attendants were Hilda Pulley, Elgie Rose, Frances Branch and Iris Worley. Little Patricia Lewis was the crown bearer.

Children of lands across the sea dressed in bright and colorful costumes came to pay homage and dance in honor of the queen. The various dances given were:

- Chinese Children — Fourth grade
- The Chamarris — (South America) Seventh grade
- Swedish Lasses — (Sweden) Sixth grade
- The Peddler's Pack — (Russia) Fifth grade
- The Highland Fling — (Scotland) Jane Armitage, Ava Davis, Anne Hood Hughes, Mary Louise Jeffreys, Betty Jo McMillan, Ruby Williams, Miss Naomi Wood was pianist.

## Richard B. Harrison Principal Resigns

W. J. McLean, After Sixteen Years Principal of the Selma Negro School, Resigns — He Will Be Succeeded By M. L. Wilson, of Four Oaks.

W. J. McLean, principal of the Richard B. Harrison High School for Negroes in Selma for the past 16 years, has resigned that position effective at the end of the current school year.

M. L. Wilson, principal of the Four Oaks Negro elementary school, has been appointed as his successor.

H. B. Marrow, superintendent of county schools, said McLean became principal of the Selma school when it had only seven or eight teachers and had guided its growth to a 23-teacher school.

The newly appointed Selma principal has been in the county school system for 14 years. Most of that time has been spent at Four Oaks, but he served several years as head of the Kenly Negro school.

## Navy Recruiting Officer Coming To Johnston

J. W. Stallings, Jr., Navy Recruiting Officer, will be in Johnston county on the following dates and at the places named below:

- Smithfield—May 20, 21 and 22.
- Selma—May 24, 25 and 26.
- Kenly—May 27.

He will be at the postoffice in each of the towns named above. Navy Trade Schools are now open to 17 year olds. The need is urgent, and at this time there is unlimited quotas on the 17 year olds; also men 38 to 50 are needed.

## Pfc. Joseph W. Lynch With Army In India

Pfc. Joseph W. Lynch, 27, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Lynch of Selma, is with the Army in India. He was inducted into the Army on April 2, 1942, and received training at Camp Claiborne, La. He was employed by Swift and Company in Raleigh prior to entering the service.

## Former Smithfield Tobaccoist Believed To Have Committed Suicide By Drowning Himself In Lake—Funeral Held Near Clarksville, Va.

The badly decomposed body of Grey Skipwith Staples, widely known to tobaccoist and former resident of Smithfield, was found floating in Holt Lake Saturday morning about one mile from the highway bridge that spans the lake just above the dam. The body was first discovered by J. M. Jennette, Raleigh insurance man, who had gone to the lake preparatory to doing some fishing. Near the cottage of the Occidental Life Insurance Company of which Mr. Jennette is a member, was found parked a Cadillac automobile which showed evidence that it had been there during heavy rains a few days before, since sand had washed against the wheels of the car. This caused Mr. Jennette to become suspicious and he went to a farmer plowing in a nearby field and asked him to go with him to investigate. Soon after reaching the edge of the lake they saw the body floating in the water not far from the edge of the lake.

A telephone call to the sheriff's office soon brought Deputy Sheriff Merton Whitley, G. C. Uzile and Lester Hales, who were accompanied by Game Warden Bill Norton. County Coroner E. N. Booker was also notified, and also Durwood Creech, a Smithfield undertaker, who went to the scene.

When the body was recovered it was found that it was in a badly decomposed condition, especially one side of the face. A large hemp rope was tied about the neck, to which was attached an automobile jack. At first there were suspicions of foul play, but Coroner E. N. Booker and other officials quickly decided it was a case of suicide and that a juror's inquest was not necessary. Papers in the Cadillac car bore Mr. Staples' name and address.

Mr. Staples had been missing since May 10 when he attended a bankruptcy hearing in Raleigh relative to the G. S. Staples Tobacco company in Fuquay Springs which had failed and which Mr. Staples had organized after disassociating himself with the Cunningham-Staples Tobacco company in Smithfield where he had formerly made his home for several years, and where he was known by a large part of the citizenry of Johnston county.

Following Mr. Staples' disappearance from his home in Raleigh, there was a wide-spread search made to locate him by radio and other means. Staples married in 1940 to the former Christine Bromley, a feature New York dancer. To this union was born one son, Grey Skipwith Staples, Jr., in 1941.

Funeral services were held at Preswold, Va., near Clarksville, Sunday afternoon at 4:30, conducted by the Rev. Mr. Allen, Presbyterian minister of Clarksville, and interment followed in the Preswold Cemetery.

Surviving, besides his wife and son, are his mother and a brother, Leeward Staples, who lives in Winston-Salem, N. C.

## Preparing Poppies To Go On Sale Here Soon

"The poppies have arrived!" This was the word that flashed to members of the American Legion Auxiliary here today and brought many of them to the Legion Home to begin the work of arranging the little red flowers for Poppy Day, May 29th.

Shaped patiently by the hands of disabled veterans, each little flower is a replica in crepe paper of the flowers that bloomed on the battle fields of the first World War. Each is slightly different, but as Mrs. B. A. Henry, Auxiliary Poppy Chairman explained, all have the same deep meaning.

"Flanders Fields are on the other side of the world from Guadalcanal and a quarter of a century distant in time but the little wild poppy of Flanders speaks for the dead of both battles," said Mrs. Henry.

"The poppy is the memorial flower for all who have died in America's struggle against world slavery, wherever or whenever they fell. We wear it to show that we remember them, honor them and are continuing to fight in the cause for which they died."

The poppies are being sorted and counted ready to go into the baskets of the Auxiliary volunteers who will distribute them throughout the city on Saturday, May 29. Contributions for them will aid the Legion Auxiliary's work for disabled veterans and families of service men.