

CREDIT WOODS WITH NEWSPAPER WEEK

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rectly connected with the presentation of "Newspaper Appreciation Week" is the Roxboro Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1935, with Hugh Sawyer, of Durham, now of Dothan, Ala., as first secretary. Sawyer, who served about a year, was succeeded by Jack Bane, of Greensboro, who served two years, and was followed by Melvin Burke, of Spencer, who came here to practice law and while in office combined both the duties of secretary and the practice of his profession. Woods has been secretary since January 1, 1940, stepping the position up to a full-time basis in May 1941.

Founding of the Person County Times, at first a weekly publication occurred in July 1929, with J. S. Merritt as editor and Maynard C. Clayton as business manager, a relationship which still continues both in executive capacities and in a business partnership.

It is significant that Merritt and Clayton are both natives of Roxboro and members of families linked almost from the beginning with the histories of the City and the County. They entered the business from deliberate choice and are still in it by the same token.

Foundation of the Roxboro Courier dates from 1881 and since 1884 it has been published by members of the family of J. W. Noell, present editor. First associated with Noell ownership of the Courier was the late John A. Noell, a brother of J. W. Noell, who came to Roxboro in 1884 and was followed here by J. W. in 1890. The Courier is now published by Noell, Taylor and Company, the Taylor name coming in with the association of D. R. Taylor, advertising manager for the past ten or twelve years, who is now in the U. S. Navy. Also a partner is Mrs. Elizabeth Noell Bowles, a daughter of J. W. Noell.

The Courier during many

years of its publication continued as a weekly, but shortly after the founding of the Times both papers entered the semi-weekly field and the Courier for a time was published three times per week but changed again this year to semi-weekly form, giving as reason the difficulties of publication under war conditions.

Interest to observe is the expansion of both papers into worthy representatives in the semi-weekly field. F. O. Carver, Jr., Roxboro native and an alumnus of the University of North Carolina, became associated with the Courier in 1935 and for several years acted as an associate editor. Carver, about two years ago resigned to go with the State Highway Commission and is now publicity director for the Navy, stationed at Asheville.

First City Editor of the Times was Edwin J. Hamlin, also a Roxboro native and a school of journalism graduate of the University of North Carolina, who became connected with the Times in 1938 and remained about a year, being succeeded by the present City Editor, Thomas J. Shaw, Jr., of Greensboro, a Duke graduate and University of North Carolina alumnus.

Hamlin, now with the U. S. Army in Winston-Salem, left Roxboro to go with the Burlington Times and subsequently with the Journal-Sentinel, in Winston-Salem. Other associate editors of the Roxboro Courier, both now in the Army, were William Smith Humphries and T. C. Wagstaff, both Person natives and college graduates. Also college trained is the Times' editor, Mr. Merritt, a graduate of Duke, while Mr. Clayton, manager is an alumnus of Oak Ridge Institute.

By 1940 a correspondent's news service for three leading State dailies, the News and Observer, the Greensboro Daily News and the Durham Morning Herald was established by the City Editor of the Times and soon added to it was the Associated Press. Big news of November 1940 was the election of Roxboro's Reginald Lee Harris as

Lieutenant Governor and biggest news break out of Roxboro in this decade was the Cy Winstead, Jr., assault case and its violence case which came in August 1941.

But major interest of Woods in promoting "Newspaper Appreciation Week" lies in his realization of the continuous service being given to Roxboro and Person County by its two newspapers, more particularly during the present war period, when both publications are being called upon for and are responding to every conceivable type of community service, particularly in Red Cross and War Bond and scrap and salvage campaigns.

Much could be written about the differing and the devetailing editorial policies of the Times and the Courier, but happiest form of cooperation prior to the issuing of these present editions was probably in the initiation of "Hospitality Week," an event first given in 1939 and subsequently sponsored by the Roxboro Chamber of Commerce under Secretary Woods.

COMMITTEE NAMED BY HARRIS WILL SEEK

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of Recorders' court, together with other citizens and officials. Simple statement of the case was made by Mayor Winstead, who said: "We are now working for the privilege of working for ourselves" and added that, "We must do all we can to promote the liberties we now enjoy." Judge Dawes, on the other hand, pointed out that nothing can be "done now under existing vagrancy laws if persons accused have any visible means of support," while Rep. R. P. Burns, who is also County Attorney, made initial suggestion at the meeting for appointment of a citizens committee to act as a clearing house where vagrancy and unemployment are concerned.

Considerable discussion was directed to the fact that certain citizens who congregate in spe-

Police Chief



GEORGE C. ROBINSON

Police Chief of the City of Roxboro is George C. Robinson, former State Highway Patrolman and Durham police officer, who succeeded S. A. Oliver here as Chief in 1941.

cific places in the City may be considered as unemployed, but this point was cleared up by a statement from J. S. Merritt, editor of the Person County Times, who pointed out that vagrancy is observable in more than one place in the City and may be found in many localities in the City and in the County.

Beer and wine as a factor in Monday layoffs among laborers was brought up by Wilson, who made a strong plea for City adoption of a week-end ban similar to that recently passed by the County. Wilson also deplored the amount of time lost by laborers who are on Monday hauled into court after having had over-indulgence in intoxicants during the week end.

Lieut. Gov. Harris closed the discussion by observing that greatest factor in abolition of vagrancy and in the establishment of a will to work is the creation of public sentiment against idleness and pointed out

E. E. BRADSHAW WILL BE PERSON SCHOOL BOARD

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business taken up was presentation of the school budget for the fiscal year to the Person County Commissioners, who met on the same day, and selection of opening date of September 1, for both Person and Roxboro district schools for the 1943 Fall term.

Griffin, in announcing the selection of the earlier opening date, said that schools can close on May 7, 1944, under the new plan for the nine month term because of a schedule calling for elimination of all holidays ex-

cept Christmas and for teaching of all classes on one Saturday in each month.

The accelerated schedule is in effect mainly because majority of Person school patrons are farmers who want their children released from school early in the Spring to do farm work.

Robert Masten Of Camp Murphy Has Praise For Army

Pvt. Robert Masten, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilmer Masten, for the past five months stationed at Camp Murphy, Palm Beach, Fla., who is spending his furlough here with his parents, is one

young man who is enjoying Army life. The food at Murphy, he says, "is good", and the general training program excellent.

Masten left Roxboro in February in the same group with Pfc. T. C. Wagstaff, who is now at Camp Swift, Texas, but is shortly expected here for a visit with his mother, Mrs. T. C. Wagstaff.

IN NURSING CORPS

Lieut. Gracie Mae Garrett, of Roxboro, a daughter of Mrs. Iola James Garrett, of Route Three, Roxboro, is now with the Army Nursing Corps at Camp MacKall. A 1936 graduate of the Watts Hospital school of nursing in Durham, before entering the Army Corps she served as an industrial nurse and is now entering her first assignment with the Army.

1793 **1943**

150 Years Of Progress

For Roxboro, "The Courteous City"

We offer Our Congratulations to Roxboro on her

150th BIRTHDAY

We Are Proud That We Are a Part of This Great Town. May it Continue to Prosper.

Bruces 5c to \$1.00 Store

Located in The Heart of The City.

1793

1929

1943

In the year 1793 the city of Roxboro was started

In the year 1929 the Person County Times was organized

In the year 1943, July 5th, we had all of these splendid bouquets tossed into our laps

There's only one thing that we can say -- but believe us it comes from the bottom of our hearts - Its

"THANK YOU"

PERSON COUNTY TIMES

WE STAND READY TO SERVE YOU