

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE UPBUILDING OF HERTFORD AND PERQUIMANS COUNTY

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## Perquimans Lending Support For Bridge

Delegates Meet With Highway Commission In Raleigh Today

### HARMONY

Entire Albemarle Sense Need For Bridge Over Sound

Earl M. Perry, chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, will head a delegation of Perquimans citizens who will join citizens of other counties and appear before the State Highway Commission on Friday to petition for a bridge across Albemarle Sound.

If harmony and a broad-minded spirit of co-operation between heretofore warring factions is to be reckoned with, the highway bridge over the Albemarle Sound seemed nearly a certainty than ever after Tuesday afternoon's big mass meeting of representative citizens held in Edenton. No prejudice as to its location was raised by a single one of the 200 or so on hand to bear testimony as to its need, and Friday a large delegation of tax payers from each county abutting on the bridge waterway will go before the State Highway Commission in Raleigh, with the true crusading spirit of the Three Musketeers, "One for all and all for one."

It will be a united front that the entire Albemarle will present to the State Board Friday, and that of itself will be novel. Last year and the year before such visitations have been interspersed with charges of favoritism and selfishness, but 1936 seems destined, from a bridge standpoint, to go down as a season of perfect bridge peace, with no dissenting voices save those scattered Albemarle folks who would like to see the Currituck short cut span, also, built, and this State Commissioner Julien Wood told the gathering had already been provided for through the proper allocation of funds and instructions to highway engineers to make ready for the project.

Call for a permanent chairman brought declinations from Mayor Flora of Elizabeth City, and Representative F. Webb Williams, of Pasquotank, but their neighbor and fellow citizen, Editor W. O. Saunders, accepted the chairmanship which was by an unanimous vote.

Mr. Saunders stated at the outset he was for the Currituck short cut first but for the bridge, too, and he then called for a poll of these counties present. He got responses from Pasquotank, Chowan, Washington, Camden, Gates and Perquimans.

Mr. Wood was introduced, first and in a quiet, sincere way expressed himself as understanding that funds had been allocated for the Currituck short cut, that highway engineers had been instructed to go ahead with the project, and he had no reason for thinking that the highway board would recede from that action. To questions by Mr. Saunders and others Mr. Wood said frankly the present allotment for bridge work over this way was not enough for the Albemarle bridge as originally proposed and the short cut, also, but the short cut seemed assured. This was especially true, he said, as to the initially planned highway bridge over the sound which called for a thorough fireproof structure, but for a lessened amount, a different type of sound bridge and short cut span might both be built.

On motion of Mayor Spires it was decided that the visitors to Raleigh Friday should first get together in the Sir Walter Hotel at 10:30, and go in solid phalanx to the highway board at 11 o'clock. To insure a good sized delegation from each county Chairman Saunders named county chairmen as follows: Chowan, Mayor Spires; Perquimans, Earl Perry; Pasquotank, G. C. Meade; Camden, Vincent Leary; Washington, Mr. Hampton; and J. M. Clagon; Tyrrell, E. P. Choon, and Gates, W. T. Cross and W. Q. Crump.

Theatre Expected Be Finished By Nov. 1

Work on the new Hertford theatre is rapidly going forward and it is expected that the handsome structure will be finished and the theatre ready to open about the first of November.

Henry Stokes has returned from a trip to Washington City.

Local Woman Gets Letter From King Edward Of England

Not often do residents of the Albemarle have correspondence with English Royalty, and letters from Buckingham Palace may be said to be something of a rarity in Hertford.

When Mrs. M. E. O. Williford, proprietress of the Hotel Hertford, received a letter from Buckingham Palace this week, her family were naturally somewhat curious as to the contents of the same.

Mrs. Williford had kept to herself the fact that she had written a letter to the King of England, and accepted the reply in much the same casual manner one would expect concerning a letter from any distant friend.

The letter was a formal reply to a letter written by Mrs. Williford to King Edward, of England, in which she had expressed pleasure that the King was unharmed when an apparent attempt was made to attack him and a gun was knocked from the hand of a man who had pointed it at the monarch as he marched toward the palace some weeks ago.

The letter, written from Buckingham Palace and dated August 5, 1936, reads as follows:

"The Private Secretary is commanded by His Majesty the King to thank Mrs. M. E. O. Williford for her letter of the 23rd of July."

Mrs. Bostick Honor Guest At Party

Mrs. P. L. Bostick, of Raleigh, who is visiting her brother, J. C. Blanchard, was honor guest at a bridge party given by Miss Kate M. Blanchard at her home on Market Street on Tuesday evening.

The house was tastefully decorated for the occasion with summer flowers.

Mrs. B. G. Koonce was the winner of the prize for top score. Mrs. Bostick, the honoree, was presented with a guest's prize, and Mrs. L. W. Anderson, a recent bride, was also presented with a guest's prize.

Those playing included Mrs. Bostick, Mrs. R. M. Riddick, Mrs. B. G. Koonce, Mrs. L. W. Anderson, Mrs. Oscar Felton and Mrs. George Barbee.

Bride-to-Be Honored At Party On Friday

Miss Hattie Weaver Riddick, whose wedding to John Louis Perry, of Windsor, will take place in the Hertford Baptist Church on Tuesday of next week, will be honored at a shower and bridge party on Friday will entertain at the home of the latter on Market Street.

Those invited, in addition to the honoree, included Miss Evelyn Riddick, Miss Carolyn Riddick, Miss Jocelyn Whedbee, Miss Dorcas Knowles, Miss Ruth Elliott, Miss Joyce Stokes, Miss Mary Onella Relfe, Miss Elizabeth Morris, Miss Sara Brinn, Miss Blanche Everett, Miss Ona Mary Stephens, Miss Helen Vick, Miss Edna Ruth Cannon, Miss Frances Fowler and Miss Lillian Blanchard.

Rosa Lee Powell Circle Has Meeting

The Rosa Powell Circle of the Hertford Baptist Church met Monday evening with Mrs. B. W. Pennington at her home on Cobb Street.

Those taking part on the program were Mesdames Charles Johnson, Tommy Miller, George Chappell, Mary Parker, Margaret Campen, R. A. Sutton and T. E. Raper.

Members attending included the leader, Mrs. Chas. Johnson; Mesdames Tommy Miller, C. O. Fowler, Ben Wood, V. A. Holden, R. A. Sutton, T. E. Raper, B. W. Pennington, S. C. Godwin, D. Spivy, Seymour Chappell, W. E. Hoffer, I. B. Siffertson, George Chappell, and Mary Parker.

Visitors were Mrs. Sidney Broughton, Mrs. Margaret Campen, Mrs. Sidney Spruill and Mrs. Lane.

After the business meeting a social hour was enjoyed.

The September meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. W. E. Hoffer with Mrs. Hoffer and Mrs. Allan Perry as hosts.

## PAPER RECORDED IN 1695 OFFERED NEGRO FREEDOM

Slave Promised to Be Obedient For Period Of Ten Years

### RAN AWAY

Paper One of Earliest Registered In Albemarle Section

What a Christmas present that would be—Freedom!

No doubt the black face lighted up in contemplation of the realization of the slave's dream. To be sure, the glad day-to-be was ten years off, ten years, four months and five days, to be exact. Toney was to be set free on December 25, 1705. That is what the paper with the big seal said. Toney knew the words by heart.

"And the said Lillington doth oblige himself, his heirs, executors, or assigns, to set the said Negro Toney free at the expiration of the term above specified."

"The said Lillington" meant the Master. He had explained it all to Toney when he had sat for a long time in the cool shade of the trees which grew about the Big House near the river. It is hot in Perquimans in August. It was hot in August of 1695, just as it is now.

Toney had probably stood, first on one foot and then on the other, as the Master had talked to him. The Master was growing tired of the black boy's disobedience. Toney had not been behaving as he should, and this had both vexed and grieved the Master.

For the Master was kind. He liked to feel that his slaves were receiving a square deal. All of the Negroes on Capt. Lillington's plantation were well treated. Most of them were contented, probably all except Toney. He made things difficult sometimes. He would not obey orders. Toney ran away upon occasion, spending days away from the plantation. Such conduct was demoralizing to the rest of the slaves. The Master had tried, by harsh means and by kind means, to make Toney mend his ways.

"Would Toney like to be free?" The Master was speaking. Toney fairly trembled at the words—freedom! Toney's restless spirit longed for freedom. "I will set you free, Toney, if you will make up your mind to behave for the next ten years." And then the Master went into the details of the agreement to be made. Well the Master knew that Toney was not ready for freedom. He must have years of training, years of disciplining and preparation before he should be set free.

Toney promised to do as the Master bade him, promised to comply with the terms of the agreement which had been explained to him.

The Master signed the paper after he had carefully read it over to Toney, and Toney made his mark, a large letter A, printed boldly.

The paper writing, one of the earliest of the recorded papers of the Albemarle, as it appears in Deed Book A, No. 98, in the office of the Register of Deeds of Perquimans, reads as follows:

Albemarle County in the Province of Carolina

Articles of agreement made and concluded between Alexander Lillington and Anthony, alias Toney, an Negro slave of the said Lillington, do for myself, my heirs, executors, assigns, covenant with my said Negro Toney in manner and form following & the said Negro Toney doth promise to perform all those following articles of agreement imprenus.

The said Toney hereby is bound to serve the said Lillington, his heirs, executors, or assigns for and during the term of time of ten years, four months and five days, which is the 25th day of December, that is in the year of our Lord 1705, and the said Lillington doth oblige himself, his heirs, executors or assigns to set the said Negro Toney free at the expiration of the term above specified, always provided that the above said Negro shall well and truly serve the said Lillington, his heirs, executors or assigns in all such service as he or any of them shall employ him in, and at no time, neither day or night, absent himself out of his master's service without his said master's license by writing from time to time under his master's hand and seal.

But if the said Negro Toney shall at any time disobey his said lawful commands or shall steal or perjure any of his master's goods, or shall

## CHECKING UP ON FARMS RELATIVE TO COMPLIANCE

Supervisors Now Measuring Acreage of Various Crops

### COX AT HEAD

Committee of 14 Working Throughout the County

The compliance supervisors are measuring the farms in Perquimans, checking up on whether or not farmers have complied in the matter of acreage planted to various crops.

David Cox, Jr., C. E., is the County Compliance Supervisor, and the committee is composed of the following:

In Belvidere Township, John T. Lane, Carrol V. Ward and Wallace Baker; in Bethel Township, C. E. White and E. Y. Berry; in Hertford Township, J. L. White, A. T. Lane and Seth W. Long; in New Hope Township, C. W. Umphlett, C. C. Banks, and J. T. Benton; and in Parkville Township, Dr. E. S. White, W. F. Morgan and Ernest Morgan.

W. D. Stubbs Faces Bad Check Charge

Jailed on a bad check charge, William D. Stubbs will be tried in a special session of Recorder's Court to be held on Friday morning of this week.

Due to the fact that Judge Walter H. Oakey, Jr., is to be out of town for the next three weeks, there will be no more Recorder's Court in Perquimans after Friday of this week until September 15. A special session is to be held on Friday to dispose of whatever cases shall have accumulated. At this writing there are only two on the docket.

Stubbs, a stranger in Hertford, who recently spent some time at the Hotel Hertford, leaving a bad check in payment of his board bill, was picked up in Elizabeth City. Mrs. J. G. Campbell, of the hotel management, went to Elizabeth City on Tuesday to make the identification of the check flasher, who was known there by another name. Failing to make the check good, Stubbs was brought to Hertford by Sheriff J. E. Winslow and placed in jail.

The only other case on the docket at this writing is one charging operation of a car with insufficient brakes.

Two Marksmen Will Attend Rifle Matches

Walter H. Oakey, Jr. and M. G. Owens will attend the National Rifle Matches to be held at Camp Perry, Ohio, from August 24 to September 13.

These two Hertford men, who are the leaders of the Hertford Rifle Club, will represent North Carolina as members of the State team at the national affair, where rifle clubs from all over the country will take part in the various contests.

Mr. Oakey brought back last year from Camp Perry the Hercules Trophy, won in a two-hundred-yard match.

by sale or barter with any person or persons without his said master's license, or any other ways, within the term of ten years, four months, five days, shall any way misbehave himself, then this obligation to be void and of none effect, the said Negro Toney to be and remain the said Lillington's slave forever, anything in this writing agreement notwithstanding.

To the true performance of the aforesaid articles we have interchangably set our hands and fix our seals this 21st day of August, 1695.

ALEX. LILLINGTON (Seal)  
A The mark of Negro Anthony  
Alias Toney (Seal)

The paper was registered the following day, August 22, 1695.

It happened two hundred and forty-one years ago. That was a hundred and seventy years before slavery was abolished in America. It happened eighty years before the Declaration of Independence was written.

## 5,000 Garments For Welfare Department

Simon Rutenberg Shows Improvement

Simon Rutenberg is recovering from injuries received in a fall in his store in Hertford on Tuesday of last week. Mr. Rutenberg fell from a stringer of a stairway under construction and broke his right arm near the shoulder. He was a patient in the Norfolk General Hospital for a couple of days last week, returning home Friday.

While not confined to his bed, Mr. Rutenberg has as yet been unable to return to his store and he has been very uncomfortable.

Meantime, the extensive repairs and remodeling of the store are going forward and by the first of the month it is expected the arrangements will be completed. Ladies' ready-to-wear and millinery will be carried on the second floor of the store, with men's clothing and shoes occupying the lower floor.

Duck Hunters Allowed 30-Day Open Season

Duck hunters will have 30 days of hunting this fall under restrictions equally as rigid and drastic as those in force last season. Last year also the hunters were allowed only 30 days.

The new Migratory Bird Treaty Act regulations announced recently by the U. S. Department of Agriculture were recommended by the Biological Survey, adopted by Secretary Wallace, and approved in a proclamation by President Roosevelt.

"These new regulations," says the Biological Survey, "continue stringent restrictions on the hunting of waterfowl in order to cut down the annual kill. The restrictions put in force last year were intended to bring about a reduction in the kill and they accomplished that purpose."

Three important species of waterfowl, the Atlantic brant and redhead and canvasback ducks have been placed on the list of fully protected species this season. These three have not shown the recovery noted in other species.

Last year's regulations not permitting baiting or the use of live decoys and sink boxes or batteries have been strengthened and continued.

Waterfowl and coot may be hunted in season from 7 a. m. to 4 p. m. standard time.

The 3-shell limit on repeating shotguns in effect last year is continued this season. Hunters may use shotguns not larger than No. 10 gauge.

The 100-foot regulation for the location of blinds has been eliminated.

Season Opens October 10  
The 30-day shooting season for ducks, geese, Wilson's snipe (jack-snipe), and coot will open in the southern zone in which North Carolina is included, on November 26 and closes December 25.

Neighbor Groups Aid Debt Relief

Activities of voluntary farm debt adjustment committees working with the Resettlement Administration have resulted in the adjustment of 400 farm debt cases in North Carolina, many involving threatened foreclosures, according to a report made by Mr. J. P. Greenleaf, supervisor of the work in this section.

Since September, 1935, when Resettlement took over the job of helping debt burdened farmers, debt cases totaling \$1,386,000 have been handled in this State, with the work of the adjustment committees resulting in reductions totaling \$337,000 for the farmers, Mr. Greenleaf said. In addition, he reported, \$35,000 in taxes that otherwise would have remained delinquent have been paid to local governments.

Any farmer in Perquimans who wishes to avail himself of this opportunity should go to see Miss Helene Nixon, at the County agent's office.

Revival Meeting In Progress At Winfall

A revival meeting and a Vacation Church School is being conducted this week at the Epworth Methodist Church at Winfall, with McMurray Richie, of Duke University, in charge of the Vacation Church School, and the pastor, Rev. J. W. Dimmette, conducting the revival services.

A similar meeting will be held next week at Oak Grove Church at Chapex.

Ready For Distribution Among Poor In County

### MANY KINDS

No Need For Suffering Throughout Coming Winter

Nearly five thousand garments have been turned over to the Welfare Department for distribution by Miss Edna Fields, County Supervisor of Woman's Work for the Works Progress Administration, since June 1. Miss Lillian Wilkins, who is the receiving agent for the Welfare Department in the absence of Miss Ruth Davenport, accepted for 4,934 garments this week.

The articles include women's, misses', children's and infants' dresses, underclothes, nightgowns, and clothing of all kinds, except coats; men's shirts, night shirts, jumpers, overalls, towels, pillow slips, sheets and rag rugs, all made by the women employed in the various sewing rooms maintained in the county by the WPA.

Two hundred garments were distributed last month, and Miss Lillian Wilkins said this week that probably 200 had been distributed this month. Miss Wilkins stated that there would be a greater demand for clothing in the near future, especially for children of school age.

Piled high on shelves provided in the store room of the WPA headquarters are hundreds of articles of clothing to be distributed. There is no necessity for any child being kept from school because of insufficient clothing this winter, according to Miss Wilkins. There is also sufficient warm clothing for the aged and other needy folks.

Two Cases Docketed For Tuesday Court

Only two cases were tried in Recorder's Court on Tuesday, all the parties involved being white persons.

The case against Charlie Monds and Norman Byrum, which consumed most of the entire session which lasted through the morning, was dismissed. Monds was charged with removing crops without permission of the landlord and Byrum with trespass.

Two white youths of the White Hat community, Robert Hollowell and James Harrell, were found guilty of attempted larceny. Prayer for judgment was continued in the case of young Harrell, upon payment of half of the court costs and upon good behavior for two years. Hollowell was given a sentence of ninety days on the roads, the sentence being suspended upon payment of half the court costs and upon good behavior for two years.

The two young men, neither of whom had been in court before, were not represented by counsel. They both proved a good character.

Declamation Contest In Hertford Sunday

The Stewardship Declamation Contest of the Chowan Association will be held with the Hertford Baptist Church Sunday afternoon, beginning at 2:30 o'clock. Every contestant of the junior organizations within the Association who has won so far is especially urged to be present.

C. E. Walker Substitute For Officer M. G. Owens

C. E. Walker will substitute as Night Police Officer for M. G. Owens for three weeks, beginning Friday night of this week. Officer Owens will be at Camp Perry, in Ohio, where the National Rifle Matches will be held. Mr. Owens and Walter H. Oakey, Jr., represent the North Carolina team.

ASSEMBLY CHURCH TO HAVE AN OLD-FASHIONED REVIVAL

It is announced that a revival meeting will begin at the Hertford Assembly Church on next Sunday morning and that there will be old-fashioned preaching by Evangelist Marie Wilson, of Albemarle, Pa. During a part of the week Rev. Guy Duty, of Alexandria, Va., will furnish special music on the trombone. The public is cordially invited to attend.