

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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

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## Local Telephone System Likely To Be Replaced By Modern Dial Arrangement

Company Ordered to Replace Manual Exchange System  
219 CUSTOMERS

Supposition That Telephone Building Will Be Erected

Action by Utilities Commissioner Stanley Winborne, Monday confirmed rumors here that a modern dial telephone system is about to replace the manual exchange system in use in Hertford for the past several years.

The Commissioner Monday issued an order directing the Norfolk and Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company to replace its manual exchange system in Hertford with a modern dial exchange.

Mr. Winborne told the News and Observer he had assurance that the change would be made "immediately." The firm serves 219 subscribers in Hertford.

Just what other changes, if any, will accompany the advent of the new dial system in Hertford has not been made public. H. W. Dewey, general manager of the firm, reached by telephone Tuesday afternoon, was not prepared to furnish further information at that time.

Telephone company officials and employees, observed by local people at various times taking measurements on different pieces of land in the town, lend support to rumors that the new setup will involve the erection of a telephone building. None of the rumors, however, are substantiated.

## W. M. Morgan Visits Old Home At Belhaven

W. M. Morgan, the furniture man, used to live in Belhaven. With the exception of one brief visit to that section which he made some twenty years ago, Mr. Morgan has not been back to the old home in something more than twenty-five years.

With the opening of the new Albemarle Sound bridge, all that country is brought much nearer to Hertford, and last Sunday Mr. Morgan, accompanied by his family, took a trip through Beaufort and Hyde counties, visiting various points. Mr. Morgan says he saw many old friends and enjoyed reminiscences with many he had not seen since he left Belhaven.

The party, which included, in addition to Mr. and Mrs. Morgan and Miss Helen Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Berry and their two children, traveled about two hundred miles, visiting numerous old familiar scenes, including Swan Quarter, which point Mr. Morgan says, is some 60 miles nearer Hertford by way of the new bridge.

## MISSIONARY SOCIETY MEETS

The Woman's Missionary Society of Oak Grove Church met on Wednesday, August 24th, at the home of Mrs. W. W. Lewis. The meeting was opened by singing "Work for the Night is Coming." Mrs. W. H. Overman, prayer, and Mrs. Addie Bright read the Scripture lesson. Others on the program were Mrs. George Jackson, Mrs. C. P. Quincy, Mrs. Emmett Stallings, Misses Mattie, Gracie and Addie Mae Ferrell. Mrs. Addie Bright led a Spiritual Life program, followed by the hymn "Take Time to be Holy."

Mrs. Addie Bright dismissed the meeting with prayer.

The hostess served lemonade and cookies.

Those present were Mrs. H. G. Baker, Mrs. Addie Bright, Mrs. Geo. Jackson, Mrs. Claude Feilds, Mrs. W. W. Lewis, Mrs. W. T. Lewis, Mrs. Walton Lane, Mrs. W. H. Overman, Mrs. Daisy Perry, Mrs. C. P. Quincy, Mrs. Emmett Stallings, Mrs. John Symons, Mrs. Gerald Wood, Misses Hazel Bright, Doris Baker, Doris Lewis, Gracie, Mattie and Addie Mae Ferrell.

## CIRCLE THREE TO MEET

Circle Number Three of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Hertford Baptist Church will meet on Monday night with Mrs. L. N. Hollowell.

## TO PREACH AT BAGLEY SWAMP

The Rev. W. J. Smith will preach at Bagley Swamp Pilgrim Church on Sunday afternoon.

## Perquimans Plays Prominent Part In Bridge Celebration

Finances Lacking, Several Join In Furnishing Attractive Float

It has been suggested that those who were instrumental in financing, designing and constructing this county's attractive float in the Sound bridge celebration parade, should stand and be recognized publicly for their splendid work when it appeared that the county could not afford the additional cost of a float made by professional decorators.

The main force behind Perquimans' elaborate entry in the colorful dedication parade was L. W. Anderson, county farm agent and a member of the committee on arrangements for this county's participation. He designed the float and its effective display of characters with the approval of a group of women who graciously served on a hastily appointed committee to select the county's queens, pages, float characters and arrange other pressing details. These women, who enthusiastically joined in when called upon to help were: Mrs. Charles Whedbee, Miss Kate Blanchard, Mrs. H. C. Stokes, Mrs. W. E. White, Mrs. J. G. Campbell, Mrs. C. A. Davenport and Mrs. S. P. Jessup.

So far as could be learned, Perquimans entered the only home-made float, which is even more to the county's credit, showing that "the spirit was willing though finances lacked." The entire cost of the float amounted to \$90, including costumes for the ten characters. Mrs. Davenport, Mrs. Jessup and Miss Gladys Hamrick made a special trip to Norfolk, Va., in order to secure appropriate attire for "George Durant," "Kilcoacan" and the rest of the cast.

J. E. Winslow and Charles Whedbee gathered together the necessary funds and turned them over to Mr. Anderson. Perquimans' entry was a truck and trailer float, and prepared (Continued on Page Two)

## Students Plan To Leave For College

Perquimans Represented In About Dozen Institutions

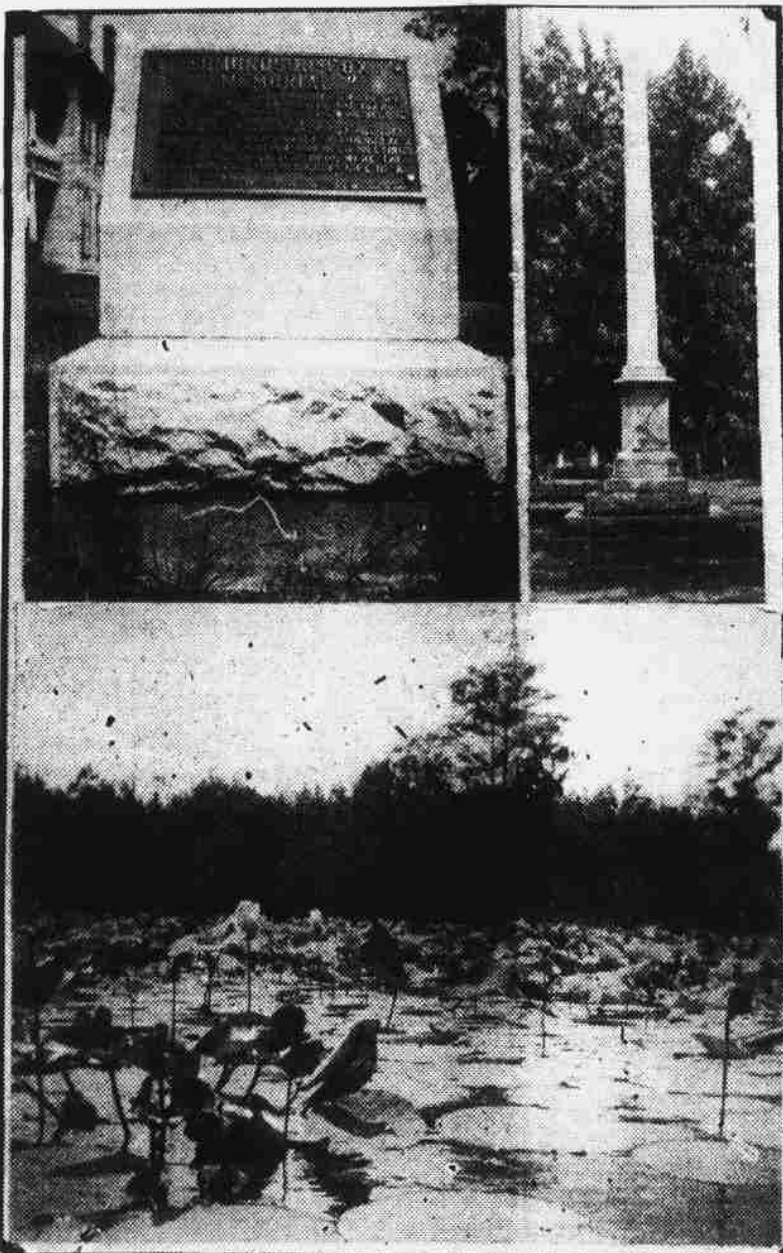
With the advent of September, Perquimans County's young people, along with the young people all over the country, are going away to school, a few leaving within the next few days and others going later in the month. There are probably a dozen colleges represented among those which Perquimans young people are attending this year.

Elon College has the distinction of numbering among its students three members of one Hertford family, Lila Budd, Ona Mary and Creighton, children of Capt. and Mrs. G. C. Stephens. Incidentally, a fourth child, Elizabeth, was graduated from the college three years ago.

Among those who were graduated from the Perquimans High School last spring and who are going away for the first time are Alice Roberson, who will attend Peace Junior College; Charles E. White, who goes to the University of North Carolina; Blanche Moore Berry, who goes to the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina; Mary Thad Chappell and Mae Edla Asbell, who go to East Carolina Teachers College; Ellie Mae White, who will go to Mars Hill; Lila Budd Stephens, who goes to Elon; Charles Harrell, who will attend Oak Ridge Military Academy; Julia Broughton, who goes to Meredith; Zach White, who will attend Duke University; Jarvis Ward and Fred Campen, who will attend Wake Forest, and Marie Anderson, who will go to Flora MacDonald.

Sarah Ward will return to the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina; Roy Reed, Eldon Winslow and Dick Payne will return to State College; Tim Brian and Dan (Continued on Page Two)

## OUTSTANDING HERTFORD SCENES



The top view left shows the Edmundson-Fox Memorial dedicated several years ago to commemorate the first religious service held in North Carolina. The tablet, mounted on granite, stands very near the roadway of Church Street—U. S. 17. The first service was conducted by William Edmundson on a spot nearby. Fox was the founder of the Society of Friends and joined Edmundson here in the year following the first service.

The right top view is of the Confederate Monument on the Court House Green facing Church Street—U. S. 17. Erected by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the memorial bears the inscription: "They fought for what they believed to be right, and sealed their faith in blood." The inscription was originated by the late W. T. McMullan, himself wounded in the war.

Below—Lotus blossoms on the Perquimans River, easily visible from the State highway bridge. Those pictured here cover more than an acre off the guseway, planted by J. S. Vick. Other lotus gardens fringe the river at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde McCallum on Front Street.

## Human Signpost Points Way



When State Highway employees twice removed Hertford marker signs at the bridge road—U. S. 17 intersection on the day before the day of the Albemarle Sound Bridge opening, several local business men worked out an idea that resulted in the signpost pictured above.

J. G. Roberson, Vivian Matthews, Rosser Brinn, V. N. Darden and B. C. Berry felt that Hertford had been discriminated against in the matter of highway signs when distance markers and directions mentioning Hertford were left off the marker posts, giving mileages entirely to Edenton and Elizabeth City from the bridge road and at the principal intersection.

These men twice placed distance and direction signs at the intersection on August 24, day before the celebration, and when highway sign crews removed them both times, Mr. Roberson and the other men prevailed upon Mayor S. M. Whedbee to appeal to Frank Dunlap, chairman of the State Highway Commission. Mr. Dunlap replied that he was instructing the district engineer to make an investigation.

But an investigation could not be made before the celebration date, so in order to let the holiday crowds know in which direction Hertford lay, the human signpost was installed there for a five-hour stand at the height of the day's traffic.

## Oldest In The Albemarle?

Just what the inscription is to be on the bronze tablet shortly to be placed in Perquimans County's ancient courthouse has as yet not been made public. Charles Whedbee, who has the matter in charge, is non-committal when approached on the subject, and there is some conjecture as to whether or not the tablet, which is to be a memorial to the late Clinton W. Toms, of Durham and New York, will contain the date of the erection of the building.

The attractive old courthouse, believed by those versed in local history to be the oldest in the Albemarle, is

## Elimination Of Dangerous School Fire Hazard Urged By Insurance Department

September Club Meeting Schedule

Placing Shrubbery Principal Topic During Month

Miss Gladys Hamrick, vacationing at the home of her parents in Kings Mountain, has released the schedule for Perquimans County Home Demonstration meetings during the month of September.

Placing Shrubbery will be the demonstration for the month, but a great part of the different meetings will be given over to the annual Kerr and Ball Canning contests.

The schedule of meetings follows: Chapanoke, Tuesday, Sept. 6, meeting with Mrs. Emmett Stallings.

Winfall, Wednesday, Sept. 7, meeting with Miss Frances Rogerson.

Whitston, Thursday, Sept. 8, meeting with Mrs. Mary D. Winslow.

Home and Garden, Friday, Sept. 9, meeting with Mrs. G. E. Feilds.

Southeastern Conference, Sept. 12, 13, 14, held in Elizabeth City.

Helen Gaither, Thursday, Sept. 15, meeting at the Agricultural Building, Bethel, Friday, Sept. 16, meeting at the school house.

Ballahack, Monday, Sept. 19, meeting with Mrs. C. A. Perry.

Snow Hill-White Hat, Tuesday, Sept. 20, meeting with Mrs. Elmer Wood.

Belvidere, Wednesday, Sept. 21, meeting at the Community House.

Beech Spring, Thursday, Sept. 22, meeting at the school house.

New Hope, Friday, Sept. 23, meeting at the Community House.

At each club meeting a canning contest will be held, and Miss Hamrick is anxious for all those entering the contests to have their jars labeled and ready to exhibit before the meeting. To enter both contests the following are required: Ball Contest, one quart of fruit (any kind) and one quart of vegetable (any kind); Kerr Contest, one quart fruit (any kind), one quart vegetable (any kind), and one quart meat (any kind).

At the roll call each member will answer by telling how many jars of different fruits, vegetables, meats, etc., have been canned this season.

## Post Office Ready By September 15

Everything Is New Except the Building Itself

The new post office quarters are taking definite shape. The fixtures are all on hand and Postmaster J. Edgar Morris expects his force will move into the remodeled building around September 15th.

Everything is new except the building itself, which formerly housed the Carolina Banking Company, and more recently, the medical offices of Dr. I. A. Ward. The lock boxes and drawers are new . . . so are the parcel post, stamp and general delivery windows. The new boxes will present something of a problem for the first few days, the method of locking and opening is different from the old style. The new boxes and drawers have only one dial, but when one catches on to the secret, they should prove more popular than the old ones, which had two number combinations to remember.

The place is well-lighted, with 12 chandeliers over the public lobby and office work space. An arch separates the post office proper from the loading platform.

## Revival Starts At Bethlehem Church

Revival services at Bethlehem Christian Church will begin Tuesday evening, September 6th, at 7:45. The Rev. Roscoe Bennett, of Creswell, will conduct the revival services to which the public is cordially invited.

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Linwood Winslow, of Belvidere, on Thursday, August 18th, a daughter.

Present Conditions In Direct Violation of State Laws

LIVES IN DANGER

Commissioner Suggests Several Changes to Remedy Situation

Below is a copy of a letter from the State Insurance Department, reporting on an investigation of the fire hazards at the Hertford Grammar School. The Perquimans Weekly publishes the contents of this report, believing that it is of vital interest to every parent in the town of Hertford and to other parents whose children attend the grammar school. The department deputy was accompanied on his tour of inspection by several Hertford citizens, members of the Town Criers, Woman's Club, and Parent-Teachers Association. It is not possible, of course, to publish the diagram referred to in the report, but the fact that the building is subject to condemnation on two counts, is made clear.

June 1st, 1938.  
Hon. T. S. White, Chairman,  
Perquimans County Board of Education,  
Hertford, N. C.

Dear Sir:—  
I have before me a copy of a report made by a deputy of this Department, who, with School authorities at Hertford, recently inspected the Grammar School Building at Hertford, N. C.

This report, with diagram, (copy attached) shows the building to be of ordinary construction, brick outside walls and wooden interior, two stories in height with auditorium with seating capacity of from 275 to 300 and four class rooms on the second floor. The diagram shows two interior stairways, but only one direct exit from the auditorium to the corridor leading to the stairways.

This condition is in violation of existing North Carolina Laws and the use of the auditorium under these conditions subjects all occupants to exceedingly grave fire and panic dangers.

This Department recommends that the present auditorium space in this building be changed and used for other school purposes, and that the corresponding space on the first floor be changed and used as an auditorium or that a new auditorium be erected, as an auditorium on the second floor of this type building, even under the best conditions, affords fire and panic danger to the occupants. This recommendation is not a law.

To meet the minimum requirements of existing North Carolina Laws and relieve conditions which subject the auditorium section of this building to condemnation procedure under the provisions of Section 2773, E.C.C.S., the following changes and additions are imperative:

Cut doorways at least 3 feet and 6 inches wide and at least 6 feet and 8 inches high at point marked "A" and at point marked "B" or "C", "B" preferred, and erect from both these doorways outside iron fire escapes, each of the two fire-escapes to consist of an iron balcony at least 4 feet wide and 6 feet long with floor level the same as the floor level of the auditorium at point served and an iron stairway at least 3 feet and 6 inches wide, extending, at an angle of not more than 45 degrees slant, from the balcony to the ground, with landing at least 3 feet, 8 inches by 3 feet, 6 inches for each 14 steps.

Steps to be of such dimensions as to afford easy travel at a reasonable rate of speed for children of school age and risers not to be of more than 8 inches. Balconies, stairways and landings to be equipped with sufficient and safely constructed handrails and guides to assure safe travel at reasonable rate of speed and constructed and erected and attached to the building in a manner to safely withstand a live-load of 90 pounds per square foot. Doors leading to the two fire-escapes to be hung so as to open out and afford full width of the stairway when open.

The report also shows a furnace and fuel room area (shown approximately on diagram) not separated from the remainder of the building and so located that a fire in this area could easily jeopardize the lives of all occupants of the building. This condition subjects the whole building to condemnation procedure under the (Continued on Page Two)