

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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

Volume VII—Number 1.

Hertford, Perquimans County, North Carolina, Friday, January 5, 1940.

\$1.25 Per Year.

Carolina No Gretna Green Virginians

Law Causes Decrease In Number of Marriages Performed in Perquimans

As many marriages were performed in Perquimans County during the year 1939 as were performed during the preceding year.

Couples applied to the recorder and received licenses in the year just closed. There were only 40 couples

married in the past year, only 19 were after the law requiring couples to submit to a physical examination to effect, on April 4, 1939, which has since been amended.

Marriage licenses were issued in the months of September, October, November and December of the year, among which the white couple, non-Edenton State, who are not required to submit to the physical examination.

It is noted that there have been few marriages of Perquimans folks during the year, for many have gone to Virginia to be married, which is considerably less costly and more convenient.

In the Act passed at the session of the Legislature in 1939, while it was provided that a couple who went into another State to be married should be required to submit to the physical examination upon their return, this has not been enforced. At least, there has been no certificate filed for the purpose of the state to be

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New Year's Baby

Perquimans County honors for the first baby born in 1940 goes to the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murray D. Lane, of Belvidere. The little lady was born at 11:30 Monday morning, according to Dr. C. A. Davenport, attending physician.

Several counties have come forward claiming honors for the first baby born in the Albemarle in 1940. These claims we will not dispute, but to Miss Lane goes the honor of being the New Year's baby of Perquimans.

R. L. Payne Freed Of Blame For Accident

No Probable Cause Is Found In Accidental Death of Negro Youth

No probable cause was found against R. L. Payne in connection with the accidental death of Luther Zachary, young Edenton Negro, in the hearing held in Recorder's Court on Tuesday.

Jack Gaskill, State Highway Patrolman, who investigated the accident and who swore out the warrant against Mr. Payne, testified that in his opinion the accident, which occurred on the Edenton Highway on the night of December 22, when a bicycle ridden by the Negro was struck by a car driven by Mr. Payne, was unavoidable and that he swore out the warrant purely as a matter of form and because it was required by law.

Evidence tended to show that there was no light on the bicycle, which was being ridden in a zig zag manner at the time the rider swerved in front of Mr. Payne's car.

The victim, who was brought to a Hertford physician and later carried to the Albemarle Hospital by Mr. Payne, died the morning after the accident.

Willie Woodard, Negro, plead guilty of the charge of driving with improper lights, and was taxed with half of the court costs.

Dr. Joseph D. Weaver, Negro physician recently located here, plead guilty to the charge of reckless driving, explaining to the court that his being unfamiliar with the road was the cause of his passing a car on a curve. The defendant was fined \$15, from which the court costs were to be paid.

Carroll Hill, Perquimans farmer, was charged with trespass on the land of J. P. Ward. It developed in the course of the trial that the trouble was due to an argument about the amount Mr. Hill should pay the prosecuting witness for impounding and feeding 12 hogs owned by the defendant. Mr. Hill was found not guilty of trespass, but was instructed to pay the proper amount to Mr. Ward.

A noll pross with leave was taken in the case of George Holly charged with non-support.

Elihu Key and Earl Rountree, Negroes, who were caught with a five-gallon jug of liquor, and who were charged with possessing non-tax liquor for the purpose of sale, for transporting non-tax paid liquor, and in the case of Earl Rountree, with driving with insufficient brakes, were found guilty as charged, and each sentenced to six months on the roads, the sentence to be suspended upon each paying a \$200 fine. In addition, Rountree's driver's license was revoked, his automobile confiscated, and he was fined \$10 on the brakes charge.

The defendants, who were not represented by counsel, appealed to Superior Court, bond being fixed in the sum of \$300 each.

Vernon Wiggins, Negro, convicted of being drunk and disorderly, was sentenced to the roads for 30 days, an additional 30-day sentence being assessed for contempt of court in connection with his remarks to the prosecuting witness while on the roads.

Postoffice Enjoys Business Increase

The steady upward trend in the business of the Hertford post office maintained in the year just passed with an increase of about 5 per cent in the sale of stamps in 1939 is reported by Postmaster W. H. Whedbee.

Opens New Store In Old Madre Building

E. Cannon has opened a new store in the Old Madre Building located on Market Street. The building has been completely renovated and makes another very attractive store.

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Hertford School To Be Improved During Summer

Long Needed Repairs Will Be Made This Year; Fire Hazards to Be Eliminated

To the anxious parents who have through many years hoped for improvement in the old Hertford Grammar School Building it will come as good news that, at long last, improvements are to be made, though the work will not begin until the year 1940 is well under way. Not until after the summer vacation begins, as a matter of fact.

Superintendent F. T. Johnson says that the money for the improvements, \$18,000, is in hand and the work actually will begin in May. Sixteen thousand dollars of this sum was borrowed last summer and the balance of two thousand was raised by taxation, the amount included in the county budget.

For a long time there has been complaint of conditions at the old Grammar School, with distress over the fire hazard particularly stressed. The boiler room was made fire-proof, according to Superintendent Johnson, last fall, by improvements which met the State requirements. The matter of fire escapes has yet to be attended to.

Contemplated improvements will include two outside stairways to provide adequate exits in case of fire. New plumbing will be installed, with modernized toilets, as well as complete renovation and refinishing of class rooms and corridors.

The long talked of auditorium to be added to the building located on the first floor, which is particularly desirable with the school made up largely of small children, is not included in the present plan.

Masons Install New Officers For Year

On Tuesday night, January 2, the following officers of Perquimans Lodge No. 106 A. F. & A. M., were duly installed for the ensuing Masonic year: F. T. Johnson, Worshipful Master; G. C. Buck, Senior Warden; C. R. Holmes, Junior Warden; G. W. Jackson, Treasurer; J. S. Vich, Secretary; B. C. Berry, Senior Deacon; A. T. Lane, Junior Deacon; D. J. Pritchard, Chaplain; Marshall Owens, Senior Steward; W. H. Pitt, Junior Steward; W. A. Hoffer, Tyler.

Standing committees were appointed as follows: Finance, C. D. White, G. C. Buck and A. T. Lane; Orphanage, J. S. Vich, B. C. Berry and E. S. Pierce; Resolutions, C. R. Holmes, B. C. Berry and J. W. Zachary.

Past Master J. S. McNider acted as installing officer, and D. J. Pritchard as Marshall.

Aged Inmate Happy At County Home

For more than half a century Walter Moss has been an inmate of the County Home in Perquimans. Walter, who has the mind of a six-year-old, is also dwarfed in stature. Left an orphan fifty-two years ago, he was placed in the County Home. There are no near relatives living now, Walter alone living on, spending a never-ending childhood among scences that have been familiar for over fifty years. Just how old Walter is, it would be hard to determine. Some say he is 76.

He is apparently happy, as he plays as a child might, but sometimes he becomes restless, according to C. B. White, the keeper of the Home. Not so long ago he ran away, as he does occasionally, and this time wandered off into the woods. When he returned he had lost one shoe. He had also left the axe he carried away with him. But he did not know how to go back for the lost articles.

Never happier than when he is smoking a big cigar, the old little boy frequently asks a visitor for one, and then he puffs away, happy for the moment as a child with a toy.

There are only five inmates in the County Home at this time.

Elderly Lady Breaks Arm In Fall

Mrs. Jane Campen sustained a broken arm when she fell on the street Wednesday night. Mrs. Campen, who is well advanced in years, was returning to her home from a visit across the street to a neighbor when she stumbled at the curb and broke her left arm being caught beneath the weight of her body.

Controversy Arises Over Fishing In Perquimans River

Petition to Be Placed Before Conservation Board For Benefit of Commercial Fishing

The fishing industry of Perquimans is a pretty important thing, with many families depending upon fishing as a means of livelihood. Between the commercial fishermen and the sportsmen, the men who fish with nets and those who fish with reel and rod or with hook and line, there has for some time been controversy.

In the Perquimans River, where herring, shad and rock are caught in great numbers in nets by the commercial fishermen, there is a limit where these fishermen may not net their nets. The boundary line of the inland waters is the bridge across the river at Hertford. From the bridge up the river is only for the man with the hook and line or the reel and rod, fishing for the big black bass which also abounds in the river, and for speckled perch, white perch, rock and jack pike.

The sportsmen have long complained that the creeks which flow into the river, once the paradise of the fishermen with the reel and rod or hook and line, no longer contain the fish that once frequented these little deep streams, for the reason that the commercial fisherman sets his nets at the mouth of the creek, or too near it, and the game fish are caught in the nets.

The fishermen interested in the game fish are seeking to have the boundary line of the inland waters, the prohibitive area for the commercial fishermen, changed. They want the boundary extended to take in the mouth of Sutton's Creek, a distance of about 6 miles from the bridge.

Commercial fishermen are strenuously objecting to the change, and a petition, signed by many Perquimans County citizens will be placed before the Board of Conservation and Development, asking that no such change shall be made and that commercial fishing in Perquimans River remain as it is.

It is a serious matter for the men who make fishing a business, and it will be still more serious for the men employed in the business if half of that portion of the river between the bridge and the Sound be set aside for use of the sportsmen only.

New Health Law Becomes Effective At First Of Year

One of the most important public health measures ever enacted by a North Carolina legislature became effective Monday, January 1, according to local health officers.

The law reads, in part, "every woman who becomes pregnant shall have a blood sample taken and submitted to a laboratory approved by the N. C. State Board of Health for performing the Wasserman test or other approved tests for syphilis."

Summarized, this new law provides: That any duly licensed physician shall, upon request of the woman, secure the required blood sample and submit it to the laboratory.

Midwives may not take such samples but shall refer their patients to a duly licensed physician.

Any pregnant woman who is not able to pay a physician to take the blood sample may have such sample secured by the county health officer or the county physician for submission to the laboratory.

Law Requires Expectant Mothers to Take Test Through Health Department

The National Youth Administration for North Carolina plans to conduct a State-wide classical musical contest to aid in the selection of Leopold Stokowski's all-American youth orchestra, to be organized in the United States this winter for a goodwill tour of South and Central America, it was learned today.

This information came from John A. Lang, State Youth Administrator, who was asked to help locate accomplished musicians interested in trying out for this orchestra.

The National Youth Administration will recruit from throughout the country the 109 young musicians who are to make up the orchestra which the famous conductor, Stokowski, plans to take on tour. Only applicants under the age of 25 years will be eligible; both both NYA workers and non-NYA young people may apply.

In order to help the National organization recruit the best talent, the North Carolina NYA is now making plans to conduct a contest of skilled young musicians in Raleigh during the early part of February to select those who will be recommended for regional try-outs under the direction of Mr. Stokowski.

Mr. Lang said young people should send all applications directly to him, care of the National Youth Administration in Raleigh. The try-outs will be open to all young people, irrespective of sex, color or race. In making applications, the young person should state the instrument he plays, his training and experience, and personal endorsements of his ability, as well as personal information concerning his age, address and present occupation.

The applications received will be considered by a board of judges, according to present plans, and applicants will be notified of eligibility for try-outs at a later date. All applications must be submitted before February 1, 1940, according to Mr. Lang.

Of this endeavor, Aubrey Williams, National Youth Administrator, said, "This is a worthy and patriotic enterprise. I am hopeful that selecting these youths through our State NYA offices will extend this wonderful opportunity equally to all of our talented young musicians, and develop a musical group that will represent the very best of its kind that can be assembled."

EARNs PROMOTION

Russell Nixon, of Norfolk, Va., who has been representative for the Life and Casualty Insurance Company of Tennessee, has recently been promoted to District Superintendent. Mr. Nixon has been with the company only ten months. He took over his new duties on January first, and will continue to make his home in Norfolk.

TAKES NEW POSITION

Bill White, who has been connected with Joe & Bill's Filling Station, has resigned and accepted a position with the Atlantic Discount Corporation in Elizabeth City. Mr. White assumed his new duties Monday.

PROPOSED RECREATION PIER PROJECT TO GET UNDER WAY HERE SOON

Conduct In Court Gets Negro Defendant An Extra Thirty Days

Vernon Wiggins will have to wait a couple of months, at least, to make good a statement made in Recorder's Court Tuesday. Judge Granberry Tucker saw to that.

Wiggins, a Negro youth, appears to have caused a lot of trouble when he appeared at an entertainment being held at the Winfall Negro school, during the Christmas holidays. As a result he found himself in Recorder's Court Tuesday charged with being drunk and disorderly.

In conducting his own defense, the defendant was allowed to cross-examine State's witnesses. "We're going to have some more trouble, you and me," he told George Moore, who was on the stand.

"Not for some time," was the laconic interjection of Judge Tucker.

In addition to the 30-day road sentence in connection with the original charge, Wiggins was given a 30-day sentence for contempt of court.

Committee Visits Windsor to See Fire Fighting Equipment

Mayor V. N. Darden, Superintendent R. N. Hines and Fire Chief S. M. Whedbee went over to Windsor last Wednesday to see demonstrated the fire fighting apparatus recently installed in that city. No decision has been reached, according to Mayor Darden, as to the exact equipment which the Town of Hertford will buy, the matter still being under consideration.

N. Y. A. To Conduct Musical Contest

The National Youth Administration for North Carolina plans to conduct a State-wide classical musical contest to aid in the selection of Leopold Stokowski's all-American youth orchestra, to be organized in the United States this winter for a goodwill tour of South and Central America, it was learned today.

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109 Young Musicians to Be Recruited For Extensive Tour

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Work on River Recreation Center Will Be Under Supervision of W. P. A.

Construction of the recreation pier, long talked about but for a long time delayed, is actually to begin within two weeks.

The building of the pier is a WPA project, sponsored by the Town of Hertford, and consists of much more than the construction of a pier.

The blueprints in the office of the WPA supervisor show that the pier, which will be located at the foot of Grubb Street, will extend 273 feet out into the water. The pavilion, open-air type, will be located at the far end of the long pier. The covered portion, with a walkway all around, shows 30 by 30 feet of floor space. Projecting out beyond this point the blue print shows a wider pier or wharf where boats may be tied up. There will be bathing at this point in approximately a seven-foot depth of water, but another separate diving tower will be constructed in deeper water, farther out in the river where there will be no danger of divers striking bottom.

The blueprints show bath houses, shower rooms and lockers at the shore end of the pier, with two separate units, divided by the board walk, into quarters for men and women, those for men on one side and for women on the other. Just in front of this bath house and facing the river will be an open-air porch with benches lining the rail. The boardwalk ten feet in width, will be railed the whole distance out to the pavilion, with steps descending to the river bottom at intervals.

A Federal allotment of \$5,132.00 will take care of the labor on the project, and also a portion of the expense materials.

Completion of the project will require approximately five months, according to Fred Chalk, who is in charge of WPA activities in Perquimans. Provision is also made for the cleaning up of the river front, old stumps, sunken logs and other debris to be cleared away, and the work is to be commenced on January 18.

Twenty men will be given employment on this project, with the work of cleaning up the river shore beginning at the same time work on the pier begins.

Commissioners In Regular Meeting Tuesday Morning

The Board of County Commissioners did not hold their regular meeting on Monday, New Year's Day, and when the members of the Board gathered Tuesday morning for their meeting they found the court room in use by Recorder's Court. Consequently, the Commissioners decided to meet in the old Grand Jury Room, up stairs, the room used now by the County Welfare Department.

Little business of importance came up. As a matter of fact, the minutes contains the phrase "on motion" but one time. It was on motion ordered that one dollar be refunded in a tax transaction.

Bills were passed upon and ordered paid, and the Commissioners discussed general topics of interest for a while and adjourned before the noon hour.

Little Business Brought Before Regular Meeting Held In Court House

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U. S. Army Recruiting Officer Now In Edenton

An opportunity is now presented to young men of this section to join the United States Army, which may be done every day at the Edenton Post Office. In the lobby of the building is stationed Corporal Joseph L. Hester, who will be glad to take enlistments between the hours of 8 a. m. and 4 p. m., every day of this week. Every young man of good character between the ages of 18 and 35 is eligible for enlistment.

According to Corporal Hester, he will make out the necessary papers each Tuesday and Friday an army truck will be in Edenton to transport recruits to Norfolk from where they will be transferred to outfits of their choice.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

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