

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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

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## COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM MACHINERY IS IN READINESS FOR NEW SEASON 1940-41

### County Gets Two New Bus Replacements; Negro Schools Will Open Monday

#### BUS ROUTES

### Last Vacancies In Faculty Filled; Ona Mary Stephens and Mary Jane Spruill Get Jobs

The county school system machinery is ready to go into motion, Superintendent F. T. Johnson has announced. G. A. Brown, the school bus route specialist from the School Commission, has been down here to help Mr. Johnson lay out the various school bus routes; the two remaining vacancies in the county faculty group have been filled, and all Negro schools are ready to begin the 1940-41 term on Monday of next week.

The transportation system gets two new bus replacements this year, Mr. Johnson said Wednesday. All white schools in the county will open for the coming term on September 4th. The bus routes in the county are described in detail further on in this story. It is interesting to note that the total cost of transporting Perquimans County's thousand-odd school children through the year 1939-40 was \$8,058.19, including even "fifty cents for pulling out a stuck school bus."

The vacancies in the faculty are filled as follows:

Miss Ona Mary Stephens, daughter of Captain and Mrs. C. G. Stephens, of Hertford, has been elected to take over one section of the first grade at the Central Grammar School. Miss Stephens has been teaching in Pangeo.

Miss Mary Jane Spruill, of Windsor, Bertie County, who graduated from the Woman's College of the University in June 1940, has been elected to teach one section of the sixth grade at the Hertford Grammar School and to teach public school music.

The Grammar School building is in the final stages of repair and modernization, and will be ready when the 1940-41 bell rings.

The only vacancy yet unfilled is that of the band instructor. However, Mr. Johnson says there will be (Continued On Page Four)

## "Inconsiderate"

Vance Baker didn't mind the boys stealing his watermelons, in fact, he said in Recorder's Court Tuesday "they can have a watermelon any time they want it."

But it did arouse his ire when Nurney Welch, Negro, failed to apologize after entering the patch last Sunday night, pulling three green melons and smashing them in the road.

Baker brought the boy into court charged with destruction of property and trespass. Baker, who witnessed the trespass and melon-busting, said he heard another passerby say to Nurney "why don't you go in the back of the patch and get a ripe one?"

In the face of concrete evidence Nurney still contends he didn't enter the patch, and that he doesn't owe Mr. Baker an apology.

Recorder McNider imposed a 60-day sentence to be suspended upon payment of the costs.

## Much Talk About Registration And Military Draft

### Views Expressed Locally Identical With Those Being Argued On Senate Floor

There's a lot of talk on the streets nowadays about registration, conscription and draft.

Compulsory military training for a conscripted few—largely unemployed or unmarried or both—is now almost a certainty.

The street and drug store concensus—arrived at by the first-line boys between the ages of 20 and 31—is almost unanimously in favor of the draft. Signs of unwillingness to be among the first selection are far between.

This piece is confined to the views of those most concerned; those who will be directly effected when the bill is passed and the conscription machinery put in motion.

The only difference between the arguments heard here and those in the legislative halls of Washington is in the use of proper oratorical delivery.

Strictly in connection with what the prospective draftees think about it all, is a local opinion that the volunteer system would amply serve a draft purpose if base Army pay was raised from \$21 to \$30 a month, and the term of enlistment reduced to one year. Without knowing it, these fellows are pushing points that even today are the subject of Senate debate.

"The compulsory training campaign is for one year," they argue, "why not voluntary enlistment for the same term of service?" Few boys feel that they would suffer a great financial loss if pay was raised to \$30 a month. Not many pay envelopes show a \$30-profit after the everyday expenses of living are deducted.

That's one side of it. Here's the other local opinion . . .

That the only fair way to raise a larger Army in times like these, when the item of patriotism can be successfully argued, is to do away entirely with the volunteer system. Not in peace time, but today the volunteer with no family obligation makes a slacker of the boy who prefers to pursue some line of work other than military training.

They argue that conscription, without local draft board favoritism, is the only wholly fair way to go about building a superior army.

One thing about which there has been no argument . . . "I am perfectly willing to be drafted for military training in preparation for service inside the United States." Their tone of voice underlines the words "inside the United States."

## Correction

We wish to call attention to an error made in last week's issue. In the advertisement listed under Riddick's Dress Shoppe . . . the signature should have been Goodwin's Dress Shoppe. The Weekly regrets this error and gladly corrects it.

### BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Benton, of Hertford, Route Three, are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son, Glenn McCoy. Mother and baby are doing nicely.

## Varied Docket At Tuesday's Session Recorder's Court

### County Tribunal Out to Clean Up Old Accounts of Unpaid Court Costs

A list of delinquent court cost payers was read in open court Tuesday morning by Recorder J. P. McNider. He advised friends of those named to notify them that capises were being made to issue and that a saving of \$2.50 would no longer be available after this (Friday) afternoon.

The court is out to clean up old accounts. There is a long list of those overdue and far beyond the time limit allowed the convicted persons to pay up or comply with the conditions of their judgments.

Josephus Baker, Vanceboro Negro, working near Elizabeth City, pleaded guilty to charges of operating an automobile without a driver's permit.

It came out in testimony that Baker had been refused an operator's license on the grounds that he couldn't read the various traffic signs. Recorder McNider instructed Prosecuting Attorney Charles Johnson to give Baker the license examination on the witness stand.

The examination revealed that though Baker, a first offender, knew all the hand turn signals and speed laws, he still couldn't read.

A sixty-day jail sentence was suspended upon payment of a \$10 fine and the costs of court.

Lester Revel, Negro, pleading guilty to a charge of driving with insufficient brakes, paid the costs of court.

Buster Doome, Negro employee at Hollowell Chevrolet Company, was found guilty of stealing automobile wheels from the motor company. Jack Perry, Negro, testified that he bought three auto wheels from Doome, identified as belonging to the motor company.

One-half of a 12-months road sentence was ordered suspended upon payment of the costs of court.

Thad Whedbee, Negro, was unable to appear in court to answer charges of assault and resisting an officer due to a bullet wound in his leg inflicted by Deputy Sheriff M. G. Owens as he attempted to arrest Chappell Saturday night.

The case of Esther Midgette and William Frazier, charged with vagrancy, was continued.

## Civic Group To Look Into Matter Of Gymnasium

### Rotary to Enlist Aid of Other Bodies and See If WPA Funds Are Available

With the appointment of committees to investigate the possibility of getting WPA funds, and to enlist the aid of the Lions Club, the Woman's Club and other civic bodies, the Hertford Rotary Club, at its meeting Tuesday night initiated a movement to get a gymnasium for the Perquimans County High School.

The project was discussed at the Rotarians' regular meeting and a committee composed of W. H. Pitt as chairman, F. T. Johnson, Charles Johnson, J. E. Winslow and A. W. Hefren was appointed to contact the various civic organizations and secure their support.

It is a further duty of the committee to investigate the chances of getting WPA funds for the building. The need of a gymnasium has long been felt at the high school where indoor sports have always been played on the stage of the auditorium.

## Postmaster Whedbee To Register Aliens

All aliens, under Federal Law, are required to register. The registration in Hertford and Perquimans County will be made with Postmaster Silas M. Whedbee, who will also fingerprint them.

The registration is to start on August 28th and be completed within four months.

The postmaster has no idea how many aliens there are in Perquimans County. It is likely that there are none. All foreign-born persons in the town and county are probably naturalized.

## Making Plans For Exhibits In Lions Annual County Fair

### Halstead Speaks to Demonstration Leaders At County Council Meeting

The Home Demonstration Clubs at a meeting of the County Council Saturday afternoon, laid the groundwork for their part in the Lions' County Fair to be staged on the Town Lot during the last week in September.

The club leaders, who comprise the county council, were in favor of collecting expense money from the sponsors for their exhibits rather than have three large cash prizes. The exhibits will be judged however, for first, second and third places.

Several of the clubs have already decided on the scheme of their exhibits.

Tentatively, Durants Neck plans to exhibit a "Year-Round Garden."

Whitston will offer a mattress program: Beech Spring is going in for a "Home Beautification" exhibit; Chapanoke will fashion its booth in the trend of "Fall Fashions."

Belvidere plans "Flower Arrangements"; Winfall is to build along the lines of "Live at Home"; Ballahack is going in for "Handicraft," and the Helen Gaither Club will exhibit "Potted Plants."

The other clubs have not made their schemes known.

Senator W. I. Halstead was the speaker at the County Council meeting, and called attention to the fact that the Home Demonstration Clubs are doing their bit for National Defense by training leaders to live at home, while other agencies train soldiers.

The Chapanoke Club had charge of the program with Mrs. C. P. Quincy conducting the devotional. Reports were given by the delegates to the Farm and Home Week Institute. They were Mrs. W. O. Hunter, Mrs. Effie Miller, Mrs. L. J. Winslow and Miss Lucille Lane.

Also at the Council meeting the leaders voted to let the County Fair substitute for the annual Fall Achievement Day.

The coming year will see the subject of Home Beautification in the forefront among demonstration clubs, Miss Frances Maness, county agent, said. For the past two years, the Clubs have been studying House Furnishings.

The Burgess Club will have charge of the program at the next County Council meeting to be held in October, she said.

## Little Business At Commissioners' Routine Board Meet

Little business was transacted by the town board of commissioners at the regular meeting of that body on Monday night.

A special meeting is expected to be held on August 21st to make up the budget for 1941. It is expected that no change will be effected in the tax rate.

The delinquent tax list for the Town of Hertford is to be published on September 13th.

## Mattress Factory Now Operating Full Blast; Turning Out 3 Daily

The mattress project factory is now turning out its capacity of three mattresses a day.

Under the supervision of two NYA girls who have been instructed in making mattresses, the accepted applicants are doing the work of building the mattresses themselves.

The mattress-making headquarters are located in Joe and Bill's old service station on Market Street. Orders at present amount to more than 280 mattresses.

All applications for free mattresses must be on file before August 31, Miss Frances Maness, home demonstration agent, says. Applications may be made to Miss Maness, Miss Ruth Davenport, welfare superintendent, or to L. W. Anderson, county agent.

A Chicken Salad Supper will be held on the lawn of Durwood Barber's home in Winfall on Tuesday evening, August 20. Proceeds of the supper will go to the Methodist Church at Winfall. The public is cordially invited.

## ZERO HOUR FOR INVASION OF ENGLAND NEAR AT HAND DANGER SIGNALS DECLARE

### Reconciliation

Spectators were asked to leave the courtroom as the final case came up in Tuesday's Recorder's Court. Thomas Newby of New Hope, was charged by his bride of ten months with non-support.

After discussion, rather than trial, Recorder J. S. McNider brought about a reconciliation between the two who had been separated only for a few days.

The case was continued indefinitely and will be brought up again only on complaint by the couple. The couple left the courtroom together and when last seen in Hertford were having lunch with one of the State's witnesses who had not been called to testify in the matter.

## Local Officers Invited To Attend Police Schools

### To Be Held In Chapel Hill By Institute of Government Federal Bureau Investigation

Sheriff J. E. Winslow and Town Officer C. E. Walker have just received invitations from the Institute of Government to divide up their forces and send men to each of the 7-day Police Schools it will hold at Chapel Hill each month, beginning in October, in co-operation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The "FBI" is again sending the best instructors from its National Police Academy to assist State and local officials in these training schools, according to the announcement received here. And the purpose, according to Director Albert Coates, is to bring the best police training in the country within the reach of all the 3,000 or more officers in the State during the coming year.

The first school has been tentatively set for October 18 to 25, and others will follow in November and December, 1940, and in January, February, March, April, and May, 1941.

The Institute has held twelve Police Schools since 1930, but these have been mainly for local chiefs, department heads, and instructors. This is the first series designed to reach every interested officer in the State, and Governor Clyde Hoey has termed it the "biggest forward step ever taken in police training in North Carolina."

The Police and Sheriffs' associations, at their annual conventions recently, both endorsed the schools and urged every single member to attend. The officers of the State Highway Patrol, State Bureau of Identification, FBI, and other federal agencies have also pledged their full co-operation and support.

Director Coates said, in announcing the police schools, that rooms would be furnished in the Institute's new building, and the only cost to officers would be approximately one dollar per day for meals, and expressed the hope that the officers of this county and city would take full advantage of this training.

He also enclosed an outline of the course, which showed that the instruction will be both detailed and thorough, stressing practice as well as theory, and will include practical demonstrations and actual practice as well as textbook study and lectures by outstanding police instructors.

Counting lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and practice periods, the instruction will last a minimum of 10 hours per day. A regular examination will be given at the conclusion, and certificates will be presented at the final exercises to those successfully completing the course. Governor Hoey himself presented the certificates at the last State-wide school.

## Attends Wedding Of Son In Durham

Mr. and Mrs. Simon Rutenberg left Sunday afternoon for Durham, North Carolina, to attend the marriage of their son, Alfred Williams, to Miss Margaret Gibbons, of Hamlet and Durham, on Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock, in Duke University Chapel. From Durham Mr. and Mrs. Rutenberg will go on to New York markets for fall merchandise and while in New York will attend the World's Fair.

### Impossible to Tell How War Is Going; No Conciliation Between Informations

### '72 HOURS' TONIGHT

### Britain Striking Back; Battle of England Will Be Greatest of All Time

For the past four days the zero hour for invasion of Britain has been approaching, but instead of only digging in to protect her own shores from the anticipated influx of Nazi Hordes, the Island Kingdom is striking back—if news reports can be believed—with a terrible toll in bombed industrial centers of Germany.

The Man in the Streets actually knows almost as much about the progress of the war in Europe before he reads the daily papers or hears the radio flashes as he does before.

For the reason that there is no possible conciliation between the information released by Germany and that released by England, it is almost as well to give up trying to follow the war.

Newspapers are beginning to publish stories from Berlin and stories from London under one screaming headline. Both carry accounts principally of major air battles, but because press correspondents can not send the true facts out of the warring nations, it is impossible to draw a clear picture of what is really taking place.

A report of a bombing raid over England, released by British censors, states that Germany lost 80 planes and England 16, while the death toll on the ground includes "ten known casualties." Germany, putting out results of the same raid, reverses the figures as to plane losses.

But getting back to the invasion of England—which apparently means the landing on British shores of thousands of Germans—headlines shouted Tuesday night that the "Zero Hour" was less than 72 hours away. If this information is correct the Invasion of England is scheduled to begin tonight (Friday).

Hitler has been promising the Blitzkrieg on England for weeks and weeks and paving his way with almost daily bombing raids. For the past two days the aerial war has been growing ominously in intensity. Many newly-developed danger signals lead Britain to believe that A. Hitler and Company is brewing something horrible—something more horrible than civilization has ever seen.

The Battle of Britain, if and when it comes, if Hitler's Invasion turns out to be as terrible as he advertises, and if England is as staunch in its declaration to fight to the last man, the World is about to witness the most monstrous struggle the eyes of man have ever seen.

These are the signals that tell Britain the Zero Hour is less than a matter of days away:

Nazi minesweepers in the North Sea, engaged in clearing waters for crossing of troop transports.

Increasing number of German parachutes in England's industrial sectors, bringing fear of paralysis to the area's vital factories.

Public dancing barred in Germany. (Dancing was halted during the invasion.) (Continued on Page Five)

## One Contribution To Red Cross Fund During Past Week

One contribution has been made to the Red Cross War refugee fund since last Wednesday at noon, according to Silas M. Whedbee, local chapter chairman.

This was the count at noon Tuesday of this week, when the total in contributions amounted to "about \$122.00." The sum represents a trifle more than one-sixth of the amount the county was asked to raise for the initial call . . . six hundred dollars.

Contributions may be handed to Mr. Whedbee at the post office, to the Rev. E. T. Jilson, rector of Holy Trinity Church, or to the Rev. R. F. Munn, pastor of the Methodist Church.

Last week was the low season in the Red Cross roll call. The week proceeding last Wednesday saw not one contribution to the fund. This week the drive is at least in motion again.

## Uncle Thompson Takes Communion

### Old Slave Darkey Carries Thoughts Back To Slave Days

Communicants of the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church who attended the usual ten o'clock service (the hour observed during the hot months) last Sunday were carried in their minds back to "Before the War" days . . . before the Civil War.

As they entered the Church, old Uncle Thompson Cunningham was standing at one side in front, dressed in his Sunday best, hat in one hand, cane in the other, and bowing to the parishioners. Thompson is about 96 years old and was a servant ("slave" in legal documents) of the Cunningham family of Guilford County. For many years he was a Baptist minister.

His wife, also living in Hertford with him, and nearly as old as he is, was a servant in the Layden family of Perquimans, and spent her younger years with that family and the Tuckers. Because of that association they are spending their last years here.

Old Uncle Thompson asked some of the parishioners if he could attend the service, and, of course, was given a warm invitation.

Apparently looking for some side entrance, he didn't appear until the service was well underway; and when he did, he came through the door leading to the chancel. The rector, the Rev. Edmund T. Jilson, paused in the service long enough to assist him to a seat in the choir stalls.

And after the others in the congregation had gone back to their seats after taking communion, Mr. Jilson gave him a special, individual invitation . . . because he seemed hesitant about going to the altar rail without it.

So old Uncle Thompson again took communion at the Church here, as he and his wife probably did years and years ago after the white folks had come down from the altar.