

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Bobby Smith Finds Hospitality Plus During Burma Stay

By BOBBY SMITH

From the enlarged black and white photographs that were lying on the table, my host father was studying intently one which depicted the use of tractors and modern machinery on an American farm. Then, through the corner of my eye, I caught him comparing these to his own three oxen that stood tied to the edge of our house. I watched my host mother glance to the bed of coals that served as her cooking stove and then back to a photograph showing an up-to-date American farm kitchen. My host sister looked sadly at her ragged skirt and then with fondness to the pictures of teen-age fashions in America. My 22-year-old host brother stared longingly at the snapshot of a college football team and then with a real questioning tone in his voice asked, "Are these real pictures? Is there a land where such great things as these really exist?" In all sincerity he had asked these questions, because here, high in the hills of the undeveloped Kayah State of Burma, with poverty, filth and illiteracy still king of the day, these modern conceptions of living seem as unreal to him and his family as does a trip to Mars for many of us.

The Kayah State is one of many valleys and beautiful mountains. Several large and impressive lakes are also contained in the scenery. There are seven different tribes of people living here and each speaks their own dialect. These dialects will also differ from village to village among people of the same tribe. It is estimated that some fifty dialects are spoken in the state. Only a few villages have any type of formal schooling and the illiteracy rate is upward of 75%. The area is the most sparsely populated in Burma with an average of only six people living to the square mile and with a total state population of 180,000.

The state has retained the old system of feudal institutions and there are four sawbwas (or lords) who rule the tribes. These four sawbwas live in great splendor and have much power over the tribes. Each village has to pay rent into the sawbwas' estate and all mar-

riages have to be approved by him. The sawbwas serves as the court and his ruling, even in case of condemning to death, is final. This feudal system of local government is the main reason why the people of the state are so backward and so unaware of the happenings in the rest of the world. For example, I asked one of my host fathers here if he had heard of Russia's success in sending a rocket to the moon, and he replied by asking, "What is Russia?"

On my arrival in Loikaw, the capital city, I was met by the Governor of the Kayah State, who is U. A. Mya Lay. For four days I remained as his guest and was really treated royally. His son, Lawrence Mya Lay, was an IFYE to the United States in 1957. I also spent some time on his farm where he is doing much work with the improvement of the Burmese cow through better breeding practices. In a sense he is the head sawbwa of the entire state. His 32-room mansion, equipped with everything including 22 servants, offers quite a contrast to the thousands of one-room huts located in the villages.

I shall never forget my visit with the Padaung people, for it is the women of this tribe who wear the many rings of gold around their neck to give it a foot long appearance. Nobody knows exactly why this custom of "neck stretching" started. Legend has it, however, that once the Burmese kings had a great desire for the beautiful Padaung girls and would bring in great numbers to form their harems. As the Padaung women grew few in number, the men of the tribe met and decided to make their women ugly and undesirable through forcing all baby girls to have long necks by the wearing of these ring collars. In later years similar rings were added to the legs and arms. The women have a very awkward appearance and are not too pleasing to the eye—at least, not my eyes.

On September 27 I attended a "sticky rice festival" at Mosa. The festival is given in hopes that through making sacrifices to the gods (the people are anti-

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Union School PTA Votes To Install Lights At School

The Parent-Teacher Association of the Perquimans County Union School convened Monday night, November 9, in the cafeteria with 110 members in attendance. The total amount of \$292 was collected from the membership drive. The purpose of the drive was to purchase playground equipment for the school.

J. A. Dempsey, the principal of the school, spoke briefly to the parents concerning the installation of lights on the school grounds, price of playground equipment and the expense for operating athletics this year. He stated that the athletic drive closed with approximately \$800 collected. It was finally agreed by the parents to have another drive to purchase lights for the grounds. Volunteer captains were asked to get donors for this project.

Willie B. Moore, president; Mrs. Emma Burke, secretary; and Mrs. E. S. Zachary, treasurer. The next meeting will be December 14 at 7:30 o'clock in the school's cafeteria.

Board To Hold Special Meeting

A special meeting of the Board of Commissioners for Perquimans County will be held Monday night, November 16, at 7:30 o'clock in the Court House. The purpose of the meeting will be to make a study of the proposed revaluation of real property in Perquimans, and to make any other matters which may be brought before the board.

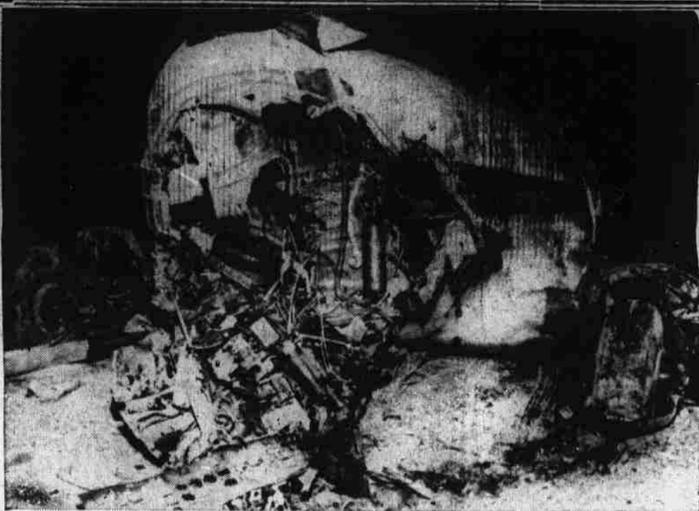
THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

U. S. cranberry producers, urged by the government announcement that some berries are risky to eat, have demanded that the government take immediate steps to locate all of the contaminated crop and remove the public fear surrounding the purchase of cranberries. The announcement made early this week resulted in many outlets removing cranberries from sale shelves.

National production started climbing again this week following the return to work by the steel industry, but indicators predict it will take about six weeks to reach the peak held prior to the strike, which started last July. The truce in the steel strike came by order of the Supreme Court and lasts until January 27. The union is expected to walk out again on that date unless a contract is signed between the union and industry before the deadline.

Seven men died and 26 were injured when fire swept an oil tanker docked at Houston, Texas. Firemen battled the blaze and prevented it from spreading to nearby gas storage tanks. Among the dead was R. R. Combs of Columbia, N. C., who was captain of the tanker.

Russia, according to an announcement coming from Egypt this week, has perfected an atomic submarine. The report said Premier Khrushchev claims the Soviet sub is much better than anything made by the United States.



SEVENTEEN PASSENGERS LIVED—Although the nose of this airliner was demolished when it crashed in Santa Maria, Calif., 17 passengers were not injured. The pilot was killed.

Society Members Invited To Edenton

Members of the Perquimans County Historical Society have received a special invitation from the Edenton Chapter of NSDAR and the Edenton Historical Society to attend the 200th anniversary of the James Ireddell House, to be observed in Edenton November 22 from 12 noon until 6 P. M. The invitation was mailed to the Perquimans Society secretary, Mrs. Julian Powell.

PTA Drive For Weekly Renewals To Close Friday

Readers of The Perquimans Weekly who desire to renew their subscription through the Parent-Teacher Association of Hertford and Central Grammar Schools and thus help these organizations to raise funds for PTA activities, are advised they must do so by Friday.

The two PTA groups have been acting as subscription agents for The Weekly during the past four weeks, seeking renewals for this newspaper, but the drive will come to a close today.

Mrs. W. E. Harrison and Mrs. Elwood Perry of the Hertford PTA and Mrs. Thomas Chappell of Central PTA, who have been directing the drive, urges their solicitors to complete a canvass of their territory immediately and be prepared to make reports Friday morning.

Weekly subscribers are again reminded, the management, in an effort to assist the PTA in this project and help the fund raising drive, has mailed no notices of subscription expirations while the PTA solicitors have been working. No notices of expiration will be mailed before January 1. However, subscriptions that have expired will be discontinued at the close of the PTA campaign unless renewed through a PTA solicitor.

Driver Charged In Accident Case

A three-car accident which occurred early last Saturday night on U. S. 17 south of Hertford about 1/2 mile, resulted in Donnie Bateman, Route three, Hertford, being charged with reckless driving, driving to the left of a center line and leaving the scene of an accident.

According to Patrolman R. I. Weathersbee, who investigated the accident, Bateman was driving a car toward Hertford and struck cars being driven by George Ward, Jr., and Jack Winslow. The officer said Bateman's car crossed the center line and hit the Ward car which had been driven onto the shoulder of the road; then Bateman continued on up the road striking the car driven by Winslow. The Winslow car, likewise, had been driven off the road in an effort to avoid a collision.

The patrolman reported damages to all three cars amounted to about \$4,450. Bateman will be given a hearing on the charges in Perquimans County Court on November 16.

Indians To Close Football Season With Camden Fri.

Perquimans High School will close its 1959 football season Friday night of this week when the Camden gridders come to Hertford for a contest with Coarb Ike Perry's squad. The Indians are hopeful they can chalk this game up as their fourth victory of the season.

Perquimans won its first Albaric Conference game of the season last Friday night by defeating Scotland Neck by a decisive score of 46 to 6. The win moved the Indians out of the cellar in the league standing, giving them a 1-3-1 record. The Indians turned the Scotland Neck game into a track meet with Preston Winslow and Jimmy Sullivan moving the ball at will, accounting for three TDs in the first period, two in the third and two more in the final quarter.

Winslow tallied four of the Perquimans TDs, running 70, 35 and 20 yards for three scores and catching a TD pass for the fourth. The Indian offense had little difficulty smashing through the Scotland Neck defense. In fact they scored 27 points during the first half while achieving only two first downs.

During the second period Scotland Neck made its only threat when Brady scampered 70 yards, returning a kickoff for a touchdown.

In the second period Ben Gibbs blocked a Scotland Neck punt which was intercepted by Carlyle Woodard, Perquimans lineman, who also scored a TD from about 20 yards out.

Shortly after the opening of the third quarter Perquimans ran the score to 32-6 and the local coaches started clearing the Perquimans bench, giving the reserves plenty of game action and experience. The reserves tallied two scores in the last quarter.

Social Security Talk At Rotary

Hertford Rotarians were given a detailed analysis of the operation of the social security program at their meeting Tuesday night when P. E. Bettendorf, area representative, was guest speaker for the meeting.

Mr. Bettendorf outlined the four benefit programs included in the social security operation and gave the requirements necessary for an individual to qualify for any one of these benefits.

He pointed out there are many individuals eligible for social security benefits but are not receiving them due to failure to make application for the benefits. He urged the Rotarians to advise such individuals to contact him and make application in order that these benefits may be properly paid.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Hathaway, Jr., of Norfolk, announce the birth of a daughter, Robin Lynna, born in a Norfolk hospital on November 2. Mrs. Hathaway is the former Miss Dorothy Jean Winslow of Edenton.

Mattox Resigns As Pastor At Baptist Church

The Rev. James O. Mattox, pastor of the Hertford Baptist Church for the past five years, has resigned his post here to accept a call as pastor of the Red Springs Baptist Church.

Mr. Mattox tendered his resignation to the church board at a meeting held Wednesday night of last week. The resignation is effective as of January.

During his pastorate here Mr. Mattox took an active part in civic as well as church affairs and the announcement of his leaving was received with a great amount of regret.

Bank To Pay Out Christmas Checks

Christmas savings checks amounting to some \$32,000 will be paid out next week to the more than 500 members of the clubs of the Hertford Banking Company, it was announced Monday by R. M. Riddick, president of the local bank.

Mr. Riddick stated the Christmas Savings Club plan this year was the most successful ever sponsored by the bank.

The release of these funds saved by the members during the past 50 weeks is expected to be reflected in early Christmas shopping in the community during the next few weeks.

Gun Happy

Local police are conducting a search for a "gun happy" individual who broke into the Pitt Hardware Store during the early hours of Sunday night and made away with a shot gun. Hitting the local hardware store for the purpose of stealing guns apparently is habit forming, for the break-in Sunday was the third time in recent months the store was robbed of guns. According to reports the gun was the only merchandise taken from the store Sunday.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT
Mr. and Mrs. James O. Layden, Jr., announce the birth of a son, Thomas Lynn, born Wednesday, October 28, at the Chowan Hospital. Mrs. Layden is the former Miss Avis Winslow.

BAKE SALE
The St. Catherine Guild will hold a bake sale Saturday, November 14, at 10 A. M., at the old bank building.

Hertford Board Given Financial Report At Meeting

Meeting here Monday night for its regular November meeting, the Hertford Town Board heard a financial report by the Town Clerk on the fiscal operations of the town for the first four months of the year. R. C. Elliott, Clerk, listed expenditures for the period running slightly higher than estimated by the budget; this being due to material purchases usually made at the beginning of each fiscal year. Income for the period was about as estimated within the budget. Elliott advised the Board that cash balances November 1 amounted to \$14,000 with all bills paid.

On request of J. Moody Mathews, Jr., the Board voted to rezone a lot of Grubb Street from residential zone to industrial zone. The lot is adjacent to the property owned by Mr. Mathews and occupied by the Farmers Feed & Seed Co.

Town Attorney Chas. E. Johnson gave the Board a report on the progress of the sale of town bonds, the income from which will be used to renovate the water filter plant and install the new water supply for Hertford.

The Board also discussed the operation of a statewide firemen's pension plan and Fire Chief R. C. Elliott advised the Board that Hertford's assessment for this plan is now paid through June, 1960.

Questionnaires On Farm Census Now Being Mailed

Questionnaires for the 1959 Census of Agriculture are now in the mail and will be in the hands of local farmers within a few days. It was announced today by Field Director Joseph R. Norwood of the Census Bureau's regional office in Charlotte.

The farm census questionnaires are being mailed from Chicago, Illinois, with the distribution timed so that the report forms will reach farmers about a week ahead of the date when census takers will begin the field canvass. The advance mailing is for the purpose of giving farm operators time to consult their records before filling in the answers required by the questionnaires and getting them ready for the census takers to pick up. This procedure is designed to insure greater accuracy of reporting and to save time both for the farmer and the census taker when the latter calls at the farm.

The 1959 Census of Agriculture questionnaire is designed to provide information on the number and size of farms, acreage and harvest of crops, livestock production and inventories, selected farm facilities and equipment, selected farm expenditures, farm values and mortgage debt. On the average, each farmer is asked about 100 questions, many of which can be answered by simply checking "yes" or "no."

Masons To Hold Annual Banquet

Perquimans Lodge No. 106, A. F. & A. M., will hold its annual Ladies' Night banquet next Tuesday, November 17, at 7 o'clock in the cafeteria at the Central Grammar School in Winfall.

Guest speaker for the event will be Ed Rooker, past Potentate and present Recorder of Sudan Temple.

All members of the lodge and members of the chapter of the Eastern Star are urged to attend the dinner meeting.

Jaycees Hold Oyster Roast

Members of the Hertford Jaycees, accompanied by five guests from the Ahsokie Chamber, traveled to Elizabeth City Wednesday night, where they enjoyed an oyster roast at Tuck's Drive-In.

Heavy Docket In Recorder's Court Here Last Tuesday

Following a recess of one week, an unusually heavy docket was disposed of during Tuesday's term of Perquimans Recorder's Court presided over by Judge Chas. E. Johnson. Four cases were continued and two defendants, Marvin Murphy and Greenwood Welch, were ordered held for \$50 bonds when they failed to appear in court to answer charges brought against them.

Six defendants submitted to charges of speeding and paid the court costs and fines indicated following their names: Edward Johnson, Howard Barrett, Jr., \$14.25, Leon Huber \$10.25, Fred Wright \$10.25, Gary Arity, John Cannon \$14.25.

Buford Graham and William Rogerson, Negro, paid the cost of court after each submitted to charges of failing to observe a stop sign.

Costs of court were paid by Carson Spivey, Jr., who submitted to a charge of following too closely.

Kenneth Willis was taxed with the costs of court on a charge of being drunk.

Leo Daniels paid the court costs after he submitted to a charge of failing to give a proper vehicle signal.

Solomon Hurdle, Negro, submitted to a charge of driving on the left side of a highway and paid the court costs.

Costs of court were taxed against James Brown, Negro, on a charge of failing to grant a right-of-way.

A 30-day road sentence was ordered invoked against Robert Gramby for failure to comply with a court order for support of his child.

Steve Reed entered a plea of guilty to a charge of assault and was found guilty on a charge of assault on a female. He was given 6-month road sentence to be suspended upon the condition he remain of good behavior for 12 months, avoid gambling.

County Included In Post Office Speed Up Plans

Hertford and Perquimans County are included in the Post Office Department's new plan to provide speedier transportation and delivery of mail in a 13-county area embracing 4600 square miles, it was reported today by W. W. White, Hertford Postmaster.

Official announcement of the new plan was made last week by Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield, through his representative M. R. Clarke, at Norfolk which is the hub of the operations.

Mr. Clarke had this to say: "This program for better first-class mail service has been in test operation in the Norfolk metropolitan area since July 1, 1959. I feel confident that postal patrons in the area can be assured that, barring occasional human errors, first-class letters mailed prior to 5 P. M., or at small offices, in time for the final dispatch if made prior to 5 P. M., will be delivered to their destinations within the plan area on the first delivery trips of the following business day."

"From many points in the area, it will be possible to give next-morning delivery in and well beyond the plan area even on mail deposited after 5 P. M. However, we would like to urge the patrons of this area to mail as early in the day as possible. The Norfolk metropolitan area includes Norfolk, Newport News and Hampton and the counties of Accomack, Nansemond, Norfolk, Northampton and Princess Anne in Virginia, and Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Pasquotank and Perquimans in North Carolina.

"Personnel of the Washington postal region and of 187 post offices in the area have worked as a team to develop a comprehensive plan for the improvement of mail service. (Continued on Page 8)

visiting pool rooms or beer parlors, that he be gainfully employed within one week and that he remain away from property owned or operated by William Landing, Jr.

Six months road sentence, suspended upon payment of fines of \$150 and costs each, were appealed by Frank Langley who was found guilty of charges of reckless driving, transporting and possessing non-tax-paid liquor and Raleigh Byrum, charged with being drunk, transporting and possessing non-tax-paid liquor.

Dallas Gilliam, Negro, found guilty of non-support, was ordered to pay the court costs and the sum of \$10 per week for the use of his children.

Henry Whegbee, Negro, charged with driving a car with an obscured side glass submitted and paid the court costs.

Leslie Wilson, Jr., and Marie Wilson, Negroes, pleaded guilty to charges of disturbing the peace. They were ordered to pay the court costs.

Costs of court were taxed against Martha Winslow, Negro, found guilty on a charge of disturbing the peace.

Horace White, Negro, was found not guilty on a charge of assault.

Elbert Revells, Negro, pleaded guilty to a charge of failing to observe a stop sign. He was ordered to pay a fine of \$10 and costs or serve 30 days in jail.

Ersa Nixon, Negro, was found not guilty on a charge of assault.

Tyler Vick and Winford Jones, Negro, pleaded guilty to charges of mutual assault with deadly weapons. Each were given 30-day sentences to be suspended upon payment of fines of \$25 and costs each.

Oscar Shaw submitted to a charge of driving with an expired license. He was taxed with the court costs.

TB Association Ready To Begin Seal Sale Drive

"Protect the Family Circle" is the aim of the Pasquotank-Perquimans-Camden Tuberculosis Association as plans go into the 1959 Christmas Seal campaign.

Approximately 1,900 letters will reach the homes of Perquimans County citizens containing Christmas Seals. Many lives have been saved since the first Christmas Seals were sold but not enough, said Tommy Maston, chairman for Christmas Seals for Perquimans County.

This year's 1959 Seal is designed by Katherine La Bruce Rowe, born in Richmond, Va., and depicts a tiny girl feeding crumbs to the birds, and a small boy feeding squirrels. Mrs. Rowe thought of children in terms of health. The seal will be used throughout the world, symbolizing a message of hope and to remind us of our responsibility, the right of children to grow up strong, intelligent and healthy.

The quota for Perquimans County is \$1,400. Proceeds from this year's Christmas Seal must do more than maintain our present TB control activities, said Maston. We must expand our efforts to find all unknown cases of TB lurking in the community and extend our educational program so that people of all ages learn how to protect themselves from tuberculosis and to put more money into medical research to find better ways of fighting TB.

Central PTA To Meet Next Monday

The November meeting of the Central Grammar School PTA will be held next Monday night at 8 o'clock in the auditorium of the school at Winfall. All members and patrons of the school are urged to attend.