

# THE HYDE COUNTY HERALD

THE NEWS OF THE RICHEST AGRICULTURAL COUNTY IN THE FOREMOST HISTORICAL AND RECREATIONAL AREA OF NORTH CAROLINA  
VOL. VII; NO. 13 SWAN QUARTER, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC. 6, 1945

### HYDE FARMERS ELECT TRIPLE-A COMMITTEEMEN

Elections Held Throughout County Last Friday, November 30th

Hyde County farmers went to polling places in their communities last Friday and elected AAA Committeemen to help administer the government farm program for another year. The names of those elected are given below, with the name of the chairman listed first; vice chairman, second; regular member, third, first alternate fourth; and second alternate, last.

Currituck "A"—Pud Prinn, C. Williams, Jack Watson, Plum Prinn, and Charlie Ayers.

Currituck "B"—J. C. Bishop, Geo. Satterthwaite, Mrs. Mary D. Radcliff, Milburn Armstrong and E. C. Barcliff.

Fairfield—J. L. Blake, Carl Cutrell, P. C. Simmons, W. B. Nixon, and Franklin Midyette.

Lake Landing—W. W. Payne, S. A. Long, J. D. Silverthorne, L. A. Dudley and H. L. Ballance.

Engelhard—S. D. Cox, B. C. Fulford, Cecil N. Williams, J. C. Respass, and W. B. Cutrell.

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM FOR MUSIC CLUB

Large Group Meets At Tranquil House for December Program

The Roanoke Island Music Club held its December meeting Tuesday night at the Tranquil House in Manteo, with Miss Addy Gould and Miss Beverly Sutherland as hostesses. Misses Gould and Sutherland also had charge of the program, which was made up of Christmas selections. The first number was a vocal trio, "Hark! Hark! My Soul," sung by Mrs. D. W. Charlton, Mrs. R. I. Leake and Mrs. Kenneth Ward. This group later sang a special arrangement of "Silent Night." Mrs. Charlton sang a group of children's Christmas carols. Miss Natalie Gould made a most interesting talk on the observance of Christmas among the armed forces overseas, and related some of her experiences of the last two Christmases, which were spent with a Red Cross hospital unit, overseas. She emphasized the importance of music to the morale of the men, especially during the Christmas season.

The concluding number was a baritone solo "Nazareth," from "The Messiah," sung by Paul Dodson. Mrs. Rennie Williamson was accompanist for the evening.

An hour of informal music followed, during which Mrs. Leake led the group assembled in singing Christmas songs, and piano numbers were played by Gaston Meekins and Mrs. Victor Meekins.

The hostesses served eggnog and fruit cake.

### REV. H. HOBART BARBER

Funeral services for the Rev. H. Hobart Barber, 83, were conducted at Augusta, Ga., Sunday afternoon. Rev. Mr. Barber passing away at his home in Augusta Friday night.

The Rev. Mr. Barber was born at Mocksville on August 24, 1862, son of the late Samuel Swan Barber and Mrs. Sara Harding Barber. He preached at Burlington, Raleigh and Morganton in North Carolina during his long career as a minister, as well as Detroit, Mich., Augusta, Ga., Houlton, Mr., and Greensburg, Va.

Surviving are his wife and one daughter, Mariou Weely Barber, of Augusta. Three nieces in Hyde County are Mrs. E. E. Crabtree and Mrs. E. O. Spencer of Swan Quarter and Mrs. T. E. Anderson of Lake Landing.

### NORTHEASTER BRINGS HIGH TIDES TO HYDE

Many roads in Hyde County were inundated today (Thursday) as the result of high tides which have prevailed since the northeast storm that struck Tuesday evening. Tides and rains together threaten to close some rural roads, although traffic was going in all sections today according to information reaching this newspaper.

Spraying the bed mattress with suitable DDT preparation is all that is needed for the control of bedbugs, although a more general treatment of infested rooms will eliminate the bugs sooner.

### BELOVED ENGELHARD WOMAN DIES SUNDAY

Mrs. William Patrick Passes Away After Long Illness; Funeral Held Tuesday

Funeral services for Mrs. William Patrick, 38, were held at the Amity Methodist Church at Lake Landing Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock with the Rev. F. R. Davis, pastor, assisted by the Rev. J. T. Brown, the Rev. J. C. Chaffin and Dr. Maynard Fletcher, officiating. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Patrick passed away in Sunday morning, following a long illness. She had been a patient in the hospital for three months.

Always friendly and pleasant, Mrs. Patrick was highly regarded and well thought of in her community. She taught school at Engelhard for a number of years and was a member of the Methodist church. Mrs. Patrick was the former Archie Harris of Swan Quarter and had lived in Hyde County all of her life.

Surviving are her husband; one brother, Allen Harris of Elizabeth City; one sister, Mrs. Wm. I. Cochran of Swan Quarter.

### A HYDE COUNTY BEAR STORY

Editor's Note: The following interesting story was sent in by J. Herbert McGowan, a Swan Quarter native who now resides in Baltimore, Md. Mr. McGowan writes, "I have often told about it up here but no one believes it. There are few people now living down in Hyde who remember 'Jim Polk, the bear.' Here is the story:

### THE STORY OF "JIM POLK," THE BEAR

A very large bear made frequent visits to the corn fields of South Matamuskee; Lake, from where the Outfall canal is now located, thence westwardly for about three miles. They set traps for him, but could never catch him; they put dogs on his trail, but he would get away from them in the big swamp. They named him "Jim Polk."

During the Civil War, "Jim Polk" had his own way because the people were occupied with other things, and had no time to hunt bear. After the war, the hunters resumed their efforts to get "Jim Polk." Tillman and Bennett Stotesbury set a trap for him on the back of the Benson farm, now known as the Mason farm, in 1866.

"Jim Polk" got in the trap, but he carried it away. Hunters took dogs the next day and hunted the big swamp for miles around, but didn't find bear nor trap.

On Thanksgiving Day, 1905, some hunters found the trap, just 39 years after it was carried off. It wasn't over one fourth mile from where it was set. There was no sign of the skeleton of the bear around.

### MRS. HATTIE WESCOTT

Funeral services for Mrs. Hattie Wescott of Wanchese, who died at her home Monday morning after a lingering illness, were conducted at the home Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock by Rev. V. A. Lewis, pastor of the Wanchese Methodist Church, of which she was a member, assisted by Rev. L. V. Pierce, pastor of the Assembly of God Church.

Funeral bearers were Spencer Daniels, Amos Daniels, Kalb Daniels, Lasalle Tillett, Charles Lee Wescott and Fred Drinkwater.

Interment was in the family cemetery.

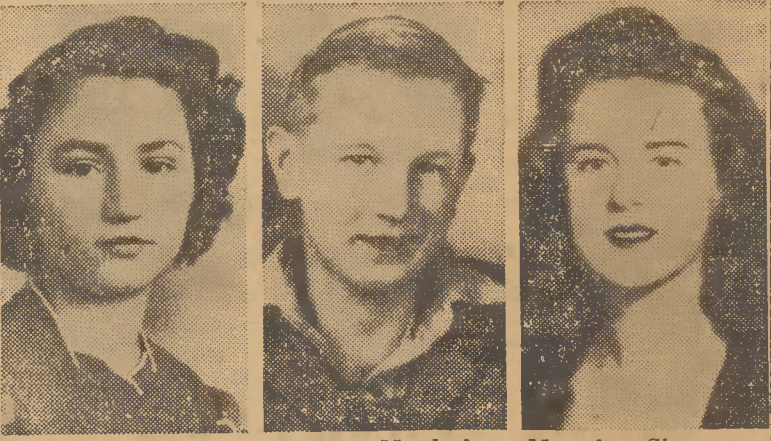
Surviving Mrs. Wescott are two sons, Charles Wescott of Norfolk and Billy Wescott of Wanchese; one daughter, Mrs. Sam Tillett; one sister, Mrs. Bart Garrison; and two brothers, Billy White and Theodore Daniels, all of Wanchese.

Among out-of-town people attending the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wescott and daughter, Amelia, of Norfolk, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Spencer, Miss Lizzie Drinkwater and Fred Drinkwater, of Elizabeth City.

### MASON RE-ELECTED BOARD CHAIRMAN

J. S. Mason of Swan Quarter was re-elected chairman of the Hyde County Board of County Commissioners at their regular meeting this week. Other business transacted by the Board included approving the bills and hearing reports from various department heads.

### North Carolina Entries Win Junior Garden Awards



Mildred Jester Sheldon Murdock Marcelene Simmons

TWO North Carolina girls and one boy captured major awards for efficient production and marketing in competing with youths from 46 states in the fifth annual scholarship contest of the National Junior Vegetable Growers' Association.

Marcelene Simmons of Mt. Airy, Mildred Jester of Durham, and Sheldon Murdock of Troutman were named southern sectional winners by the association's adult advisor, Prof. Grant B. Snyder of Massachusetts State College, during the junior growers' 11th annual convention in Cincinnati, O. The three champions received \$100 awards from the \$6,000 in contest scholarships provided annually by the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company.

In addition to the sectional winners, a North Carolina boy and girl were named recipients of \$25 Victory bonds at the convention. Gerald D. Mann, 16, route 2, Newport, and Ethel Compton, 17, route 2, Collinsville, were the bond winners.

Marcelene, 17, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Simmons, route 1, Mt. Airy in Surry County, is a sophomore at Meredith College. Her crops were raised on a small garden on her father's 70-acre farm and were worth \$623.

A one-acre plot that produced an income of \$320.25 in vegetables was the project of top-ranking high school senior Mildred Jester, 17, daughter of J. C. Jester, route 3, Durham. She has been in 4-H club work for eight years.

Thirteen-year-old Sheldon Murdock, son of Mr. John C. Murdock, route 1, Troutman worked a four-acre project on his father's Iredell County 360-acre farm. Plagued by a late spring a summer drought and a heavy infestation of ear worms in his two acres of corn, Sheldon still managed to harvest produce worth \$439.50.

James L. Ammon, 18, of Albany, Ore., was named 1945 national champion and won the scholarship award of \$500. Jim Spell, 16, of Columbia, Miss., received a \$200 award as southern region champion.

### A BIRD DOG THAT REALLY POINTS

One day last week two local sportsmen, Dr. W. W. Johnston and Dan Cannady, Sr., feeling the need of relaxation and with a taste for birds, took Mr. Cannady's two pointers, Frank and Gypsy and went down Wanchese way for a bit of sport.

Now Frank, for a pointer, is an easy going dog, who seems to have the attitude that he can take hunting or leave it alone, either way makes little difference to Frank. But Gypsy, for a lady, is another matter, she is all eagerness and fire, she loves hunting and makes no bones about it.

At first the two sportsmen had indifferent success but finally the effervescent Gypsy hit what looked like a hot trail or scent, if you prefer. She led the two huntsmen across a large and brush grown field and down toward a ravine or small gully and on the bank leading down to the place she suddenly froze into a perfect point.

The two huntsmen, on the alert and expecting momentarily to see a covey of quail or other game birds go up, waited in vain. No birds were flushed from the brush, no deer broke cover, no bear went scampering away. They were puzzled, but not for long, apparently disgusted with such waiting Gypsy led the men to it. She had made a perfect point for a very large and heavy turtle. The sportsmen made a gallant effort to take this game back to the car but gave it up as a bad job. The turtle was too heavy.

### WATCH FOR MARKERS ON NYLONS, SAYS OPA

No one seems to know just when the market will be flooded with a plentiful supply of nylon hosiery, but when the nylons arrive they will carry a tag giving all the information the customer needs in making her purchase, according to OPA. Shoppers should look for these markers for their own protection.

The OPA said these official tags, attached to one stocking in each pair of nylons, will give such salient data as the retail ceiling price; the gauge and denier of the hose; the name of the maker; whether or not they are irregular, second or third quality; and whether they are out-size or extra-long.

OPA also reminded a nylon-hungry public that the hose would return to the market at prices at least one-fourth below those charged in 1942, with ceiling prices for first quality, full-fashioned nylons ranging from 95 cents to \$2.05, compared to previous ceilings of \$1.65 to \$2.50.

### DANIEL HOPKINS DIES

Daniel H. Hopkins, 83 years old, a native of Danish West Indies, who came to America when a very small boy, died at his home West of Manteo, Saturday morning, December 1, following several months of failing health. Shortly after he landed in Norfolk, he ran away from his home there, took passage on a small schooner for Roanoke Island, and becoming attached to the household of the late I. C. Meekins, who lived at the place now known as the Mother Vineyard Farm, he grew up like one of the family.

He was highly respected as one of the best citizens of the Island, by white as well as those of his own race, and many years ago, became ordained as a minister in the Negro Baptist Church. He had conducted a small store for many years, and was known for his pleasant manner and upright dealing.

He is survived by three children, Dan Hopkins, Jr., and Mrs. Lucy Bowser of Manteo, and Mrs. Izetta Bowser of Elizabeth City. The burial was conducted Tuesday at the Haven's Creek Baptist Church of which he was a member.

### MANTEO P. T. A. HAS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Manteo Parent Teacher Association met Tuesday afternoon in the school auditorium, and enjoyed a Christmas program. Rev. Frank Dinwiddie was the guest speaker and made an interesting talk on Peace. This was followed by a group of Christmas carols sung by the fifth and sixth grades, assisted by four members of the fourth grade. Miss Holland Westcott accompanied the children. The stage was attractively decorated in keeping with the Christmas season.

During the business session it was agreed that a party be given in February for the purpose of raising funds. At the conclusion of the meeting, tea and sandwiches were served in the lunch room by Mrs. Roy Wescott, Mrs. W. W. Ballowe, Mrs. Warren O'Neal and Mrs. W. M. Jolliff.

### ENGELHARD SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR TWO DAYS

Because all the buses were out of commission, the Engelhard high school was forced to close Wednesday afternoon. Present plans call for opening Monday, December 10th.

The basic answer to farm prosperity is found in high domestic consumption and a healthy export market, says J. B. Hutson, Secretary of Agriculture.

### 12-YEAR OLD BOY VICTIM HEART ATTACK

Curtis O'Neal of Kitty Hawk Dies on Way to Sunday School; Falls from Bike

Curtis O'Neal, 12-year-old Kitty Hawk boy, was the victim of a heart attack which seized him while he was on the way to Sunday School last Sunday morning, and died shortly after falling from his bicycle.

The lad lived with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George W. O'Neal, who took him at the death of his parents when he was an infant. Mrs. O'Neal had helped him prepare for Sunday School and was watching from the doorway, as he rode his bicycle along the road. He suddenly toppled and fell from the bike. His grandmother ran to him, but he died almost immediately.

The boy's death came as a great shock and grief to the community of Kitty Hawk, where he was well known and loved.

He is survived by his paternal grandparents of Kitty Hawk; one sister, Peggie O'Neal of Kitty Hawk; one brother, George Emerson O'Neal, USN, in the Pacific; his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hughes of Cape May, N. J.; one nephew, several cousins, uncles and aunts.

### MRS. BROWN DIES IN WASHINGTON HOSPITAL

Funeral Services Held In Providence Methodist Church Thursday

Funeral services for Mrs. Leta Brown, 56, were held Thursday morning, December 6, at Providence Methodist church in Swan Quarter, with the Rev. J. C. Chaffin, pastor, officiating. Interment was in Soul cemetery.

Mrs. Brown died in Fowle Memorial hospital in Washington Wednesday morning at eight o'clock. She had been in declining health for several years.

A former school teacher and a leader in church activities, Mrs. Brown was highly regarded and well thought of in her community. She was the widow of the late Thad Brown and the daughter of Alexander and Josephanna Berry, of Swan Quarter. She was a graduate of the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. Allen Wilkinson of Greensboro, two sons, Thad Brown, Jr., of Norfolk, Va., and S/Sgt. John Kenneth Brown, U. S. Army, one granddaughter, Beverly Ann Wilkinson of Greensboro; one sister, Mrs. Geo. B. Credle of Norfolk, Va., and one brother, A. B. Berry of Norfolk, Va.

### HYDE CHAPTER O.E.S. ENTERTAINS OFFICIAL

Hyde Chapter, No. 213, Order of the Eastern Star, held a special meeting Friday night, November 30th, in the Masonic Hall at Lake Landing for the official visit of Mrs. Maud Baynor Foy, District Deputy Grand Matron. The meeting was opened in ritualistic form by the Worthy Matron, Mrs. Ruby Long. Mrs. Foy was escorted to the East and invited to take charge of the meeting.

Mrs. Foy brought an inspiring message to the members of the chapter, after which she was presented a gift by Mrs. Lucy Cox in her pleasing manner.

Another visitor was Mrs. Rachel Stroud, Worthy Matron of the Kinston Chapter, No. 52-O.E.S. Mrs. Stroud is a sister of Mrs. Foy.

At the close of the meeting, refreshments of fruit cake, fruit jells with whipped cream, hot coffee and Christmas candy were served by Mesdames Annie Payne Belle Gibbs and Lida Miller.

### AGED COLORED MAN OF MANTEO PASSES

Dan Hopkins, aged colored man of Manteo, died early Saturday at his home. He was about 80 years of age, and had been in failing health for some time, but had been seriously ill about two weeks.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at one o'clock in the colored Methodist church.

Born in Norfolk, he came to Roanoke Island when a young man, and had run a small store ever since. He was highly respected by both white and colored, and his passing has left grief in the hearts of many. He is survived by two sons and two daughters.

### LOWER TAX RATE IN DARE AIM OF COMMISSIONERS; DRINKWATER SUPERVISOR

### Board Finds Gross Inequalities in Valuations A Handicap to Progress, and Anticipates Many Benefits From a Lower Rate and Proper Valuations As An Encouragement to Development

### DEATH TAKES FINE OLD LADY FROM HYDE



Mrs. Leta Brown, 56, who died Thursday morning, December 6, at Providence Methodist church in Swan Quarter.

Most of the time of the meeting of the Board of Dare Commissioners this week was given over to a serious discussion of tax listing problems, and the Commissioners were unanimously of the opinion that the demands of the day call for a reduction of the tax rate, and the adoption of a system of fair valuations for 1946.

The board looked around for a diplomat to put into effect an improved system, and chose A. W. Drinkwater, who was given full authority to select a board of appraisers and list takers for the entire county. The board also delegated Commissioner John A. Meekins of Rodanthe the authority of special assistant for the South Banks to see that things are properly managed in that area which has some 40 per cent of the county's population, but none of its advantage of modern transportation.

Under the loose listing system that has prevailed in Dare County from time immemorial, property owners have been allowed to list as they chose, and in many instances they didn't list at all, until brought to book by some diligent official. Property has often been listed at one tenth to one half its market value, and the system has resulted in property going on the books at so low a value that it has been necessary to charge a high tax rate in order to raise enough money to finance the county.

An investigation by the Board revealed property now selling at as much as \$10,000 for instance, valued on the books at \$1,500 to \$2,000. This has made it necessary for those who list their property at a fair value to bear an undue burden of the county's expenses, and their taxes at a rate of \$1.90 has been more than their fair share.

The law requires every person who lists to first subscribe to an oath, before making a return of his holdings. In future this rule is to be put into effect. Persons who are non-residents will be allowed to make this oath before a notary public at their place of residence before mailing their return. Local citizens will take the oath before the list-taker.

Failure to make the proper return will invoke the penalty required by law, which may be as much as 25 per cent of the taxes, (Continued on page four)

### HATTERAS P. T. A.

The Hatteras PTA met Monday night, Dec. 3, in the school building with Mrs. Nacey Austin presiding. "Work For the Night Is Coming" was sung by members. Rev. Earl Meekins led in prayer and gave an interesting talk on "Together We Build." Mrs. Meekins discussed "Choice of Books for Our Children" and gave a reading from the November issue of Parent Teacher Magazine. The minutes and treasurer's report were approved. It was announced that the membership was 141, with 70 families represented. Room committees were announced as follows: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd: Mrs. M. L. Burrus, Mrs. Donald Stowe, Mrs. Lacey Austin and Mrs. Roy Gray. 4th and 5th: Mrs. Murray Styron, Mrs. Harold Gray, Mrs. Frazier Peele and Ms. Norman Quiddley. 6th and 7th: Mrs. Richard Job, Mrs. Ellsworth Ballance, Mrs. Horace Gaskins, Mrs. Johnny O'Neal. 8th and 9th: Mrs. Dolph Burrus, Mrs. Olen Austin and Miss Gracie Ballance. 11th and 12th: Mrs. Damon Gray, Mrs. Loran Ballance, Mrs. Ruth Austin and Mrs. Snowden Quiddley.

### KITTY HAWK SCHOOL ANNOUNCES HONOR ROLL

The following students of the Kitty Hawk School made the honor roll for the second report period:

Second grade—Martha Leary, Sadie O'Neal and Conley Beacham.

Third grade—Clifton Perry and Billy Harris.

Fourth grade—Tanya Dawn Tillett and Anges Toier.

Fifth grade—Harriett Tillett and Kathleen Rogers.

Sixth grade—Fannie Aust'n, Kenneth Clay Tillett, Roy Dale Sowers and Lynwood Beasley.

Seventh grade—Zelda Gaimel and Jimmy Culpepper.

Eighth grade—Violet Keller, Reda Perry and Jean Best.

Ninth grade—Evelyn Gaimel and Geneva Harris.

Tenth grade—David Tillett.

Eleventh grade—David Tillett.

Twelfth grade—Burrvell Beacham.

Producing a sufficient amount of the right kind of feed for the various classes of livestock is one of the major farm problems in North Carolina, says Dr. James Hilton of the State College.

The fourth and fifth grade room won the attendance banner. Mr. and Mrs. Loran Ballance would have won the jackpot if they had been present. The \$2.00 goes into next month's jackpot, making it \$4.00. M. S. Ear: Meekins was appointed program chairman. Refreshments were served by Mrs. A. S. Austin, Mrs. Olen Austin and Mrs. M. L. Burrus. It was decided to hold the regular meeting on the 1st Monday in every month, instead of the first, so that program material would be available.