

The Clinton Chronicle

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Clinton, S. C., Thursday, March 9, 1967



These views are typical of the scenes presented in practically all rooms at Providence (Lydia) Elementary School Sunday after a visit by vandals —Photos by Paul Quinton

Local Donations Total \$150,000

Hospital District To Build Nursing Home

Preliminary steps have been completed for the Clinton Hospital District to construct a 40-bed long term care (nursing home) facility, according to announcement this week by Ryan F. Lawson, chairman of the Board of Directors.

The nursing home will be located on the Bailey Memorial Hospital property and operated by the hospital's Board of Directors.

Mr. Lawson stated that the need for this type facility in the Clinton Hospital District has been evident for several years and it is felt that it will be a tremendous benefit to the community.

The cost of constructing and equipping the facility will amount to approximately \$750,000 of which \$333,000 will be provided by the federal Hill-Burton program administered by the South Carolina Board of Health.

Lawson stated that the first two parts of the Hill-Burton application have already been approved by the State Board of Health and the U. S. Public Health Service.

The \$195,000 local share of the project has been obtained primarily from donations. The Bailey Foundation contributed \$48,000, the Duke Endowment \$47,000, the Torrington Company - Clinton Bearings Plant

\$20,000, Greenwood Mills \$20,000, the C. W. Anderson Foundation \$10,000 and the E. L. Mansure Company \$5,000.

The remaining \$45,000 of the local share will be obtained from the sale of notes of the Clinton Hospital District which were authorized by legislation introduced by State

School Trustee Election Tuesday

Next Tuesday, March 14, a school trustee election will be held in the Clinton attendance area.

Two candidates are in the race, J. A. Orr, incumbent, and Robert B. Wassung.

Four voting precincts will be provided, including the Armory on S. Broad St., the city hall on N. Broad St., the community house on Academy St., and the Long Branch voting precinct. Polls will be open from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m.

The County Board of Education in a meeting Monday night in Laurens re-appointed S. C. Blackmon to serve for the Mountville attendance area and Calvin Cooper for the Lydia attendance area, since no requests for an elec-

Senator W. C. Dobbins and approved by Representative W. Paul Culbertson and David S. Taylor. It was further pointed out that no tax increase will result from the sale of notes.

The county delegation also introduced legislation amending the enabling act of the district to authorize the hospital board to construct and operate a long term care (nursing home) facility.

In addition to Lawson, other Clinton Hospital District Board members are Dr. George R. Blalock, W. C. Neely, David R. Meyers, and John M. Simmons. Fred N. Crawford, Jr. is administrator of the Bailey Memorial Hospital.

Terms of other members of the board did not expire this year. The post of chairman of the board is not subject to election, but is made by appointment by the County Board. James Von Hollen, chairman for District 53, whose term had expired, was re-appointed.

Similar elections are scheduled Tuesday in District 53 (Laurens) including Ford attendance area and Gray Court-Owings attendance area.

Budget of \$1,909,000 Adopted by PC Board

Presbyterian College trustees Tuesday adopted a budget of almost \$2 million and elected new officers for the coming year as two highlights of their annual business session on campus.

Dr. Eugene T. Wilson, pastor emeritus of Atlanta's Peachtree Presbyterian Church, was named board chairman succeeding banker-industrialist Robert M. Vance of Clinton, who rotated off the board after this meeting. James A. Chapman, Jr., of Spartanburg, president of Inman Mills, was named vice-chairman; and Hugh S. Jacobs of Clinton, co-owner of Jacobs Brothers printing firm, secretary.

The 1967-68 budget of \$1,909,000 adopted Tuesday compares to the current budget of \$1,720,000 and includes these items: auxiliary enterprises—\$383,000; instructional expense—\$334,000; administrative and general—\$239,000; operation and maintenance—\$143,000; scholarships—\$125,000; and depreciation—\$80,000.

Trustees assembled Monday night to meet in committees and complete detailed plans for presentation to the full board which convened Tuesday morning with Chairman Robert M. Vance, presiding. After a report from PC President Marc C. Weersing, the following committee chairmen reported:

Wallace Montgomery of Atlanta—finance and budget committee; Dr. Merle Patterson of Atlanta—academic affairs; Hugh Jacobs of Clinton—student affairs; L. J. O'Callaghan of Atlanta—financial development; J. L. Bruce of Cornelia, Ga.—physical development; and Jacobs for Chairman Vance—executive committee.

A special citation and leather luggage were presented to Vance at the Monday night dinner in appreciation for his "eminent service" as a trustee since 1952 and as board chairman since 1957, longest tenure ever served by a PC chairman.

Vandals Wreck Inside Of School in Lydia Area

Vandals had a field day during the weekend at Providence Elementary School, which serves the Lydia Mill area, doing damage estimated at \$2,000 to \$3,000.

They invaded practically every room in the building, smashing practically everything in sight, ruining pianos, desks, classroom aids, books, office equipment, mirrors, the clock-signal system, and splashing ink on walls, windows and floors.

Entrance to the building was gained by breaking a glass in a side door and reaching in to turn the lock.

Once inside, they gave contents of the building a thorough going-over. R. P. Wilder, superintendent of District 56 schools termed the damage the worst that had been experienced in his many years' connection with the school system.

James A. Longshore, principal of the school, stated that several other entries had been made into the building during recent months.

The vandalism was discovered Sunday morning by Ernest Davis, custodian, when he went to the school on a routine check. He immediately notified school authorities.

Time of entry was not immediately determined, but the school officials said that residents of the area reported seeing some young men around the building and grounds about 9 o'clock Saturday night.

Every Room Hit
Following is the damage listed by rooms:

First grade: Sprayed fire extinguisher here and in hall.

Second: Record player damaged, scattered and damaged books.

Third: New record player stolen, bulletin board ripped from wall, flowers torn from pots, piano damaged.

Fourth: Ripped out wall projection screen and maps.

Fifth: Door off cabinet.

Sixth: Books torn and scattered over floor.

Library: Books pulled from shelves and scattered over the floor, some ripped apart, two world globes smashed, ink on walls and windows.

Auditorium: Ripped out every hammer but five in piano.

Office: New copying machine and clock smashed, permanent records ruined by iodine and ink splashed over contents of files and walls, desk ruined by acid from fire extinguisher.

Teachers lounge: Upholstered furniture ripped, mirror smashed and bath fixture damaged.

Early Wednesday afternoon Sheriff R. Eugene Johnson announced the arrest of two men, both from the Lydia community, in connection with the vandalism at the Lydia Elementary School over the week-end.

Arrested was Thomas Edward Lawson, 20, who admitted his part in the vandalism.

Another man, apprehended in the case, while implicated, has not admitted his participation, the sheriff said. Both are being held in the county jail at Laurens.

The building was entered between 3:00 and 4:00 a. m. Sunday, the sheriff said.

Sheriff Johnson said he and his deputies investigated the case from early Sunday to Tuesday, when announcement of the arrests was made. He commended his staff highly for their work on the case.

OTHER BREAK-INS
The sheriff at the same time told of the apprehension of another man of the same community, William Thomas Walker, 20, in connection with other break-ins in the Lydia area. The sheriff said Walker acted alone in two cases, and was joined by Lawson in four other instances.

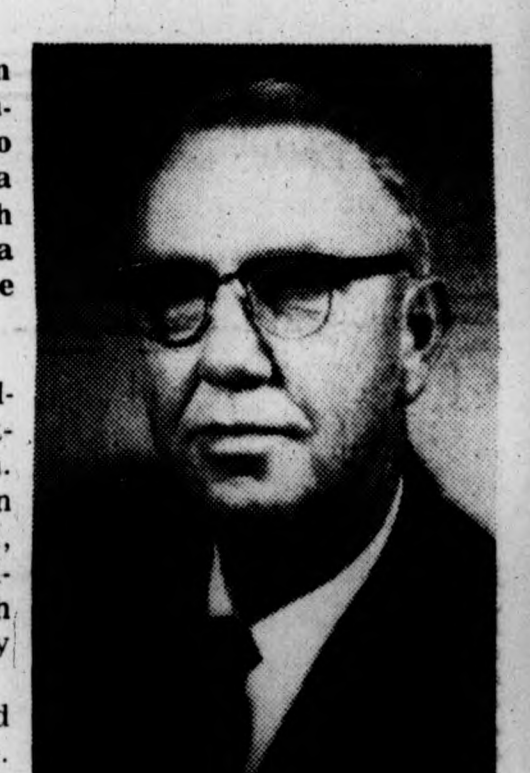
On January 15, Lawson and Walker attempted to enter the Lydia Mill Store through a roof ventilator, but were not successful in getting into the building.

January 2, the two men entered the Lydia school by

breaking in a rear door. On the same night they entered Jesse Abercrombie Barber Shop and the community building.

February 26, Walker admitted entering the Lydia school alone and taking meat from the lunch room freezer, and the same night entered the community house, the sheriff said.

All three men have been charged, warrants were signed by Sheriff Johnson late Tuesday night, issued by Magistrate Charles T. Oakley.



Adair to Head Commerce Group

I. Mac Adair was named president of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce for the fiscal year 1967-68 by the board of directors and installed at the close of the annual supper meeting on Tuesday evening.

Robert B. Wassung will serve as first vice-president and M. Dillard Milam, Jr. as treasurer. Claude A. Crocker, retiring president, will become second vice president.

The new slate of officers will assume their office April 1, together with five new directors recently named in a mail ballot.

Named to serve on the board for the 1967-70 term were George B. Brockenbrough, Joe S. Holland, B. Noland Suddeth, D. B. Smith and J. C. Thomas.

Continuing directors are: I. Mac Adair, W. C. Baldwin, Tom Plaxico, Shelton J. Rimer, Robert B. Wassung, terms expiring 1968; C. W. Anderson, W. R. Anderson, George H. Cornelson, Charles T. Pitts, and Louis M. Stephens, terms expiring 1969.

Adair, a native of Clinton, a graduate of Presbyterian College, active in other civic, community and church affairs, is an elder of the First Presbyterian Church, charter member of the Clinton Lions Club. Owner of Adair's Men's Shop, Mr. Adair entered the retail clothing business in 1932.

Bill Would Give Trustees Power To Raise Taxes for School Needs

Columbia — Trustees of Laurens County's two school districts would in effect be given authority to raise school taxes to meet school needs in legislation introduced Thursday by Laurens House members.

The legislation requires the two trustee boards to prepare budgets annually for operating and maintaining schools and to provide sufficient money to supplement teachers' salaries by 20 per cent of the annual state aid. Budgets would have to be made public.

The county auditor would be compelled to levy sufficient taxes to provide necessary revenues for the budgets.

Such taxes would be levied automatically unless at least 125 qualified electors in each

district who opposed any tax increase petitioned the County Board of Education for a referendum on the question.

The board would set up the referendum machinery and tabulate results.

If a majority of those voting favored a tax increase, the county auditor would be required to levy it. Otherwise there would be no tax increase.

The school boards of Districts 55 and 56 would be required to submit their budgets this year on or before April 15, and on or before Feb. 1 of each succeeding year for the following year. The district superintendent would assist in preparation of budgets.

Copies of the budgets would have to be filed with the coun-

ty auditor and treasurer and County Legislative Delegation and also published in a newspaper with general circulation in Laurens County.

Budgets would have to be approved by at least a majority of each of the two boards.

Before raising taxes, the auditor would be requested to publish a statement showing the increase in special detail.

Referendum petitions would have to be submitted within 20 days of the last day the requested tax increase was published.

The legislation was offered by Reps. David Taylor and Paul Culbertson of Laurens and came after meetings between the full delegation and school officials.



—Quinton Photo

Joanna Boy Drowns in Pond

Coroner Marshall Pressley said he will schedule an inquest into the death of Anthony Lee Blackwell, 4-year-old Joanna boy who drowned Thursday in a farm pond near his home.

The victim was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Lee Blackwell who live in a trailer park on S. C. Highway 69 near the pond where the tragedy occurred.

The victim's body was found in the water at the edge of the pond approximately forty minutes after a search was started by his father. The water was approximately four feet deep where the child was found.

The pond, on property owned by Fred Hayes, covers about half an acre, Pressley said. The nearest trailer was within 300 feet of the pond.

Anthony Towne To Speak March 15 At All Saints Church

The Reverend Peter D. Ouzts, vicar of All Saints Episcopal Church, has announced that the last speaker in the Wednesday night Lenten series will be Anthony Towne, a freelance writer, who will appear on March 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Towne is a native of Massachusetts and was graduated from Andover and Yale. His poems and essays have appeared in the "New Yorker", the "Sewanee Review", "Motive" ("God is Dead in Georgia," a satirical obituary), and other magazines. He is currently under contract with Harper and Row for "Excerpts from the Diary of the Late God" and "The Bishop Pike Affair" (co-author) and with Seabury Press for "Fai h Today". The public is invited to attend.

Previous speakers in this series have included Yancey Robertson and David Lowry of Winthrop College, Friedrich Schmitt of Charlotte, and Jean McCown of Whitten Village.



College Board Officers Elected

The Presbyterian College Board of trustees, holding its annual business session on campus last Monday and Tuesday, elected new officers to serve for the coming year. As shown in this picture, left to right, they are: Hugh S. Jacobs of Clin-

ton, secretary; Dr. Eugene T. Wilson of Atlanta, chairman; receiving congratulations from Robert S. Vance of Clinton, retiring chairman; and James A. Chapman, Jr., of Spartanburg, vice-chairman.—Yarborough Photo.



Musicians Rehearse for Role Tonight

Clinton High School musicians are shown during rehearsals for the musical comedy, "Mr. Crane," to be presented tonight and Friday night at 8 o'clock in the school auditorium. The play is being given by the combined chorus and band.

Shown (first row) are Johnny

Bolt, Mike Lewis, Collie Lehn, Ace Workman, Larry Addis; second row—Kathy Bouknight, Nancy Jones, Allen Finley, Hal Bouknight, Joey Lee, Butch Meadors; third row—Bill Weir, Butch Meadows; 3rd. row, Steve Benjamin; standing—Carole Perry, Steve Sanders. —Photo by Yarborough.

Power To Be Off Sunday

Duke Power Company has announced that electricity in the city will be off for five minutes Sunday morning, from 7:00 to 7:05, in order to make a change in the lines.