



The
DUPLIN STORY
BY *SAM BYRD*

2ND-ED
FAMINTON 1886
WITH SEPARATE
AMPHITHEATRE LISTING
ONE

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(CORWIN)

X *The*
Duplin County Historical Association (41375)
Incorporated

PRESENTS

The Duplin Story

AN HISTORICAL PLAY WITH MUSIC

By
SAM BYRD

Produced and Directed by Mr. Byrd
Production Designed and Executed by Corwin Rife X

HAMPTON D. WILLIAMS AMPHITHEATRE
Kenansville, North Carolina

September 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12, 1950
8:00 P. M.

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50c Per Copy

Published By
J. R. GRADY
Editor, The Duplin Times

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FOREWORD

In repeating "The Duplin Story" for a second season, it is sincerely hoped not only that the production will be enjoyed again by large audiences as it was last year but also that the review of Duplin County's magnificent past record, seen in the light of modern progress, may serve as a steady beacon in leading our people toward a greater present and a finer future.

This is the primary purpose of historical drama, not merely to inform and to entertain but chiefly to act as a stimulating challenge for present-day citizens to emulate the best examples of citizenship, character, courage and vision which have wrought successfully in developing this great land of ours.

May we all so appreciate the immortal spirit of self-sacrifice and public service of our forbears, which made them willing to fight and die for their country, that in these current critical days we may be willing to strive to live and work for the betterment of our communities, state, nation and world, to the end that the heritage we leave our posterity will be even richer and greater than the worthy inheritance we have received from our illustrious predecessors.

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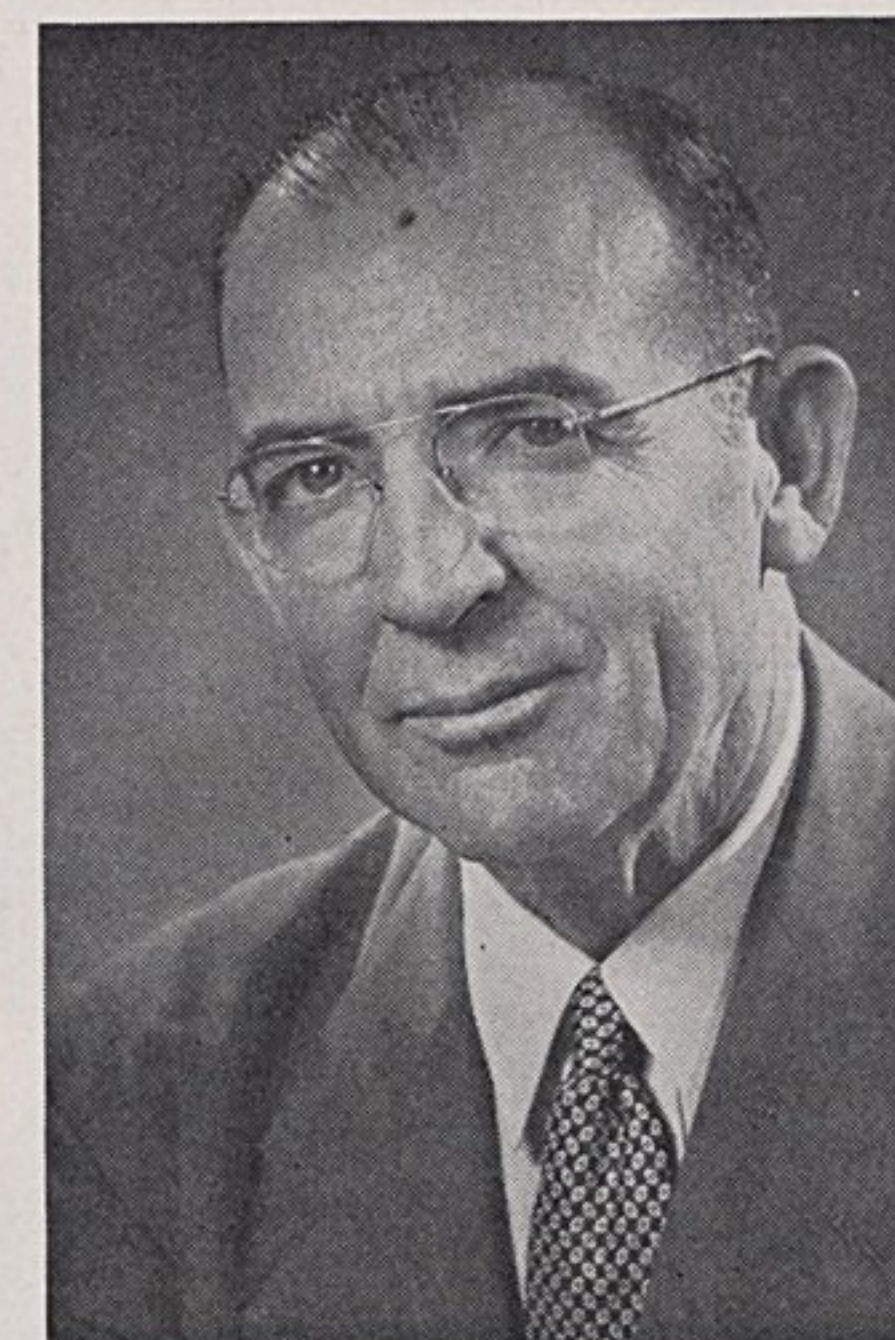
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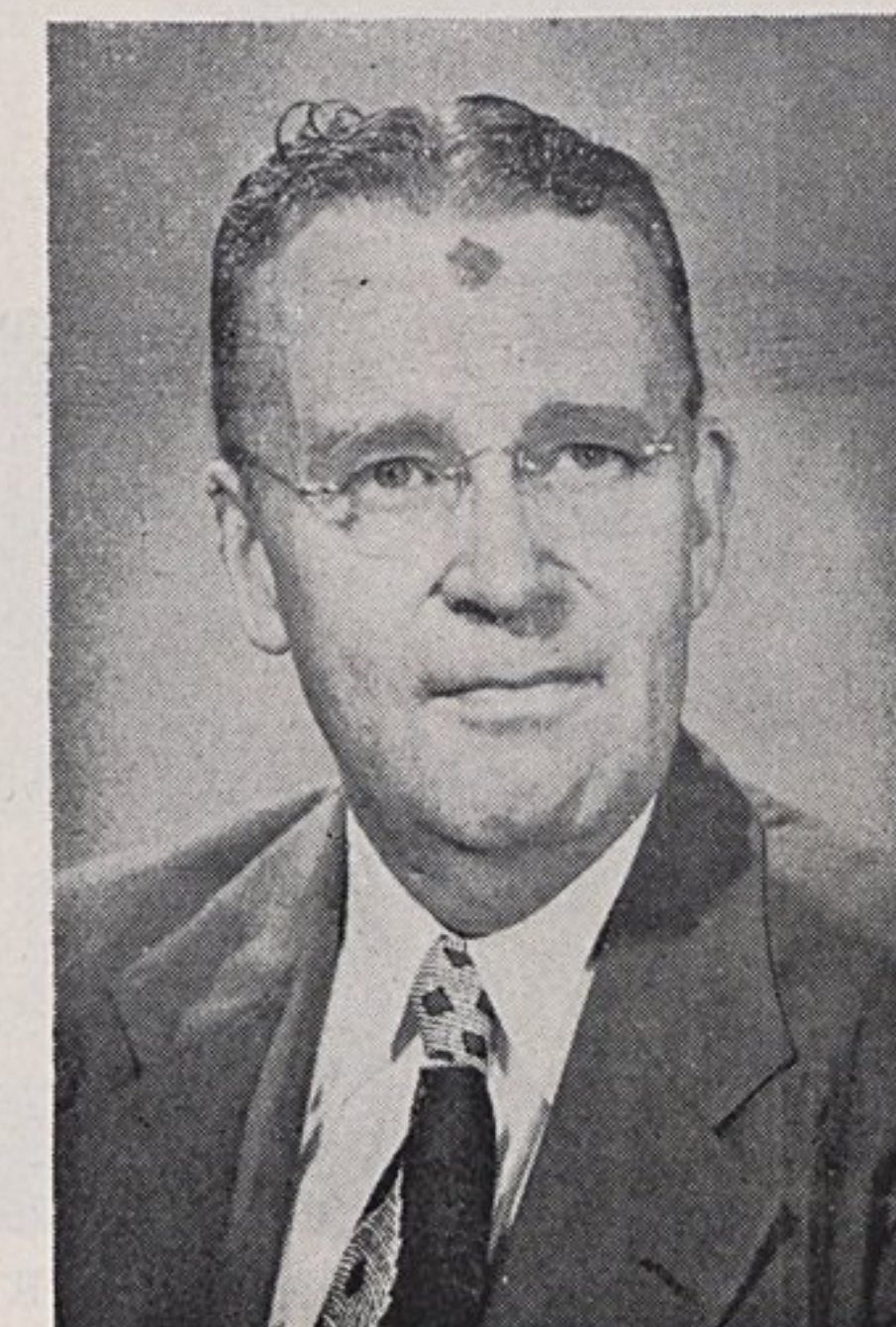
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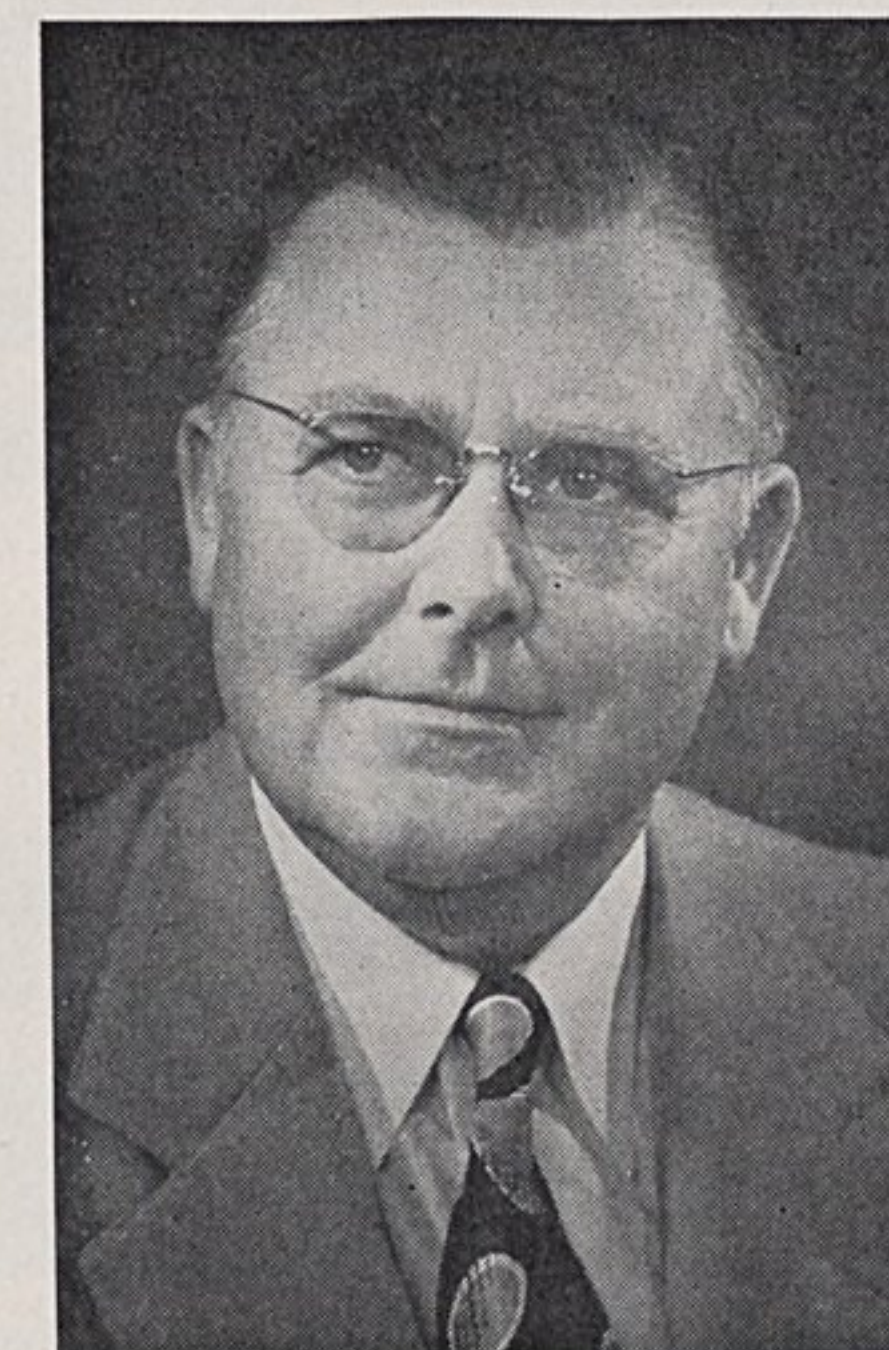


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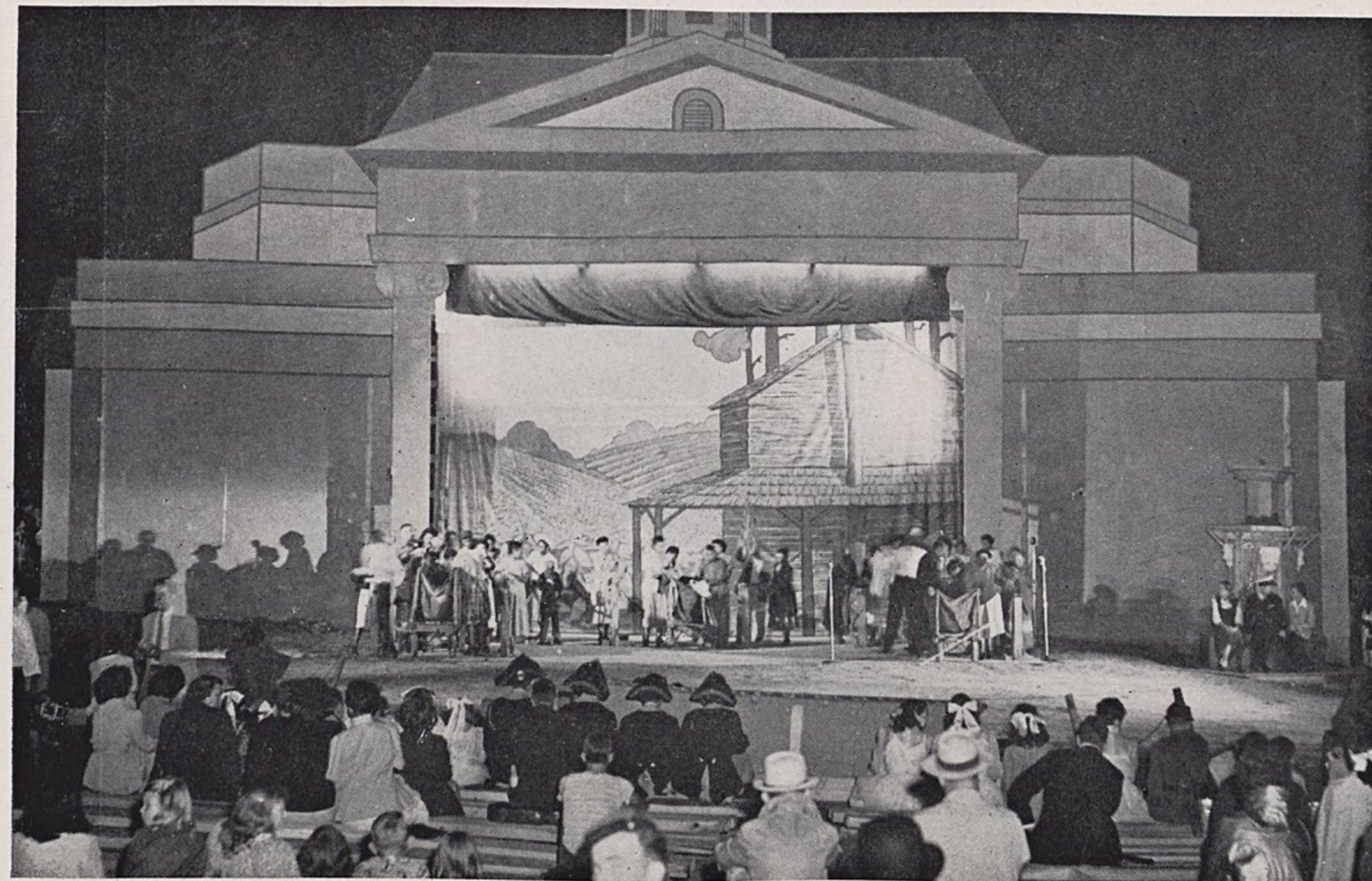
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THE STAGE AND SOME SPECTATORS — 1949

The Duplin Story Staff

Technical Director..... Corwin Rife

Assistant Technical Director..... William Walker

Musical Director..... Naomi Wood

Organist..... Marietta Richards

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Special Music..... Jack Rosenberger

Special Battle Effects:
Capt. William M. Buck and 1st Lieut. James F. Strickland, Co. M.,
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Stage Manager..... A. M. Davis

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Master of Properties..... Colon H. Holland

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Assistant Musical Director (The Liberty Hall Choir)..... Cornelia Best

Dance Director for the Square Dancers..... J. L. Williams

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Guthrie, Jimmy Johnson.

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Costume Assistants:
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ner, Mary Jewell Dotson, Mamie R. Fordham, Margaret Fussell, Lula
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Sam Byrd . . .

THE AUTHOR

Sam Byrd is a Southerner born in Mt. Olive, North Carolina, and schooled in Florida. For eleven hundred and fifty-one consecutive performances, he played Dude Lester, that horn-blowing, ball-bouncing Georgia boy in the famous poor-white drama of the South, "Tobacco Road." For two full seasons he toured the country in the Pulitzer Prize play, "Street Scene." He played the role of Curley in the Critics' Prize play, "Of Mice and Men," and has been featured in many other Broadway productions. After leaving the stage, he paid a long visit to the scenes of his Southern boyhood, and his first book, "Small Town South," won him a Life-in-America Prize.

Sam Byrd is a lieutenant-commander in the U. S. Naval Reserve. He saw violent action on D-Day as beachmaster of a section of the famous and bloody "Omaha Beach," where his performance under fire won him two decorations for heroic achievement. He took part in the battle for Okinawa and the Occupation of Japan, where he accepted the surrender of the seaplane base at Sasebo, Kyushu. His second book, "Hurry Home to My Heart," was inspired by his experiences in Normandy.

The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation awarded Sam Byrd a fellowship in creative

writing in 1946, and renewed that fellowship in 1948. A study of the wartime disruption of family life carried him to England in 1946, and to the Mediterranean countries in the summer of 1948. He lectured for the American Information Service in England, and returned to the United States to teach sociology at the College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina.

When the people of Duplin County sought someone to recapture the dramatic incidents of the county for the celebration of their two hundredth birthday last year, it was natural that they turn to their neighbor and "grandson," Sam Byrd. Sam Byrd is emotionally committed to the people of eastern North Carolina. The power of this emotion is inevitably transmitted to "The Duplin Story." He makes the people of Duplin County in this historical play intensely human. They are real flesh and blood characters concerned with the exciting business of portraying history in the making.

He returns this year for a second production of "The Duplin Story," which is being shown again by popular demand. Last year he was honored by Kenansville and Duplin County by being made an honorary citizen of both.

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CORWIN RIFE

Corwin Rife, technical director and scene designer of "The Duplin Story," was born in Dayton, Ohio. He has traveled extensively in the United States. His background of art, drama and music gives his work authenticity and breadth. And he's not afraid of work. Since coming to Kenansville last year to help produce "The Duplin Story," he has "fallen in love" with small town life and, as he puts it, "It is the life of America." Small town life "fell in love" with Corwin, too. He carved a niche in the hearts of everyone with whom he worked. He, like, Mr. Byrd, was made an honorary citizen of Kenansville and Duplin County.

Drawing for the cover of this book is by Corwin Rife.

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The Scenes

●
PLACE: A Park in London near the Houses of Parliament, and Duplin County, North Carolina

ACT I

- Scene 1: A Park in London, September, 1950.
Scene 2: A Tobacco Field near Faison, Summertime, 1950.
Scene 3: The Park in London.
Scene 4: The River Barge Landing at Sarecta, an August afternoon, 1755.
Scene 5: The Park in London.
Scene 6: Command Post of Colonel James Kenan at Rockfish Creek, August 2, 1781.
Scene 7: The Park in London.
Scene 8: An open field "Somewhere in Duplin County," on a Spring night, 1863.
Scene 9: Liberty Hall, Kenansville, an afternoon in June, 1865.

ACT II

- Scene 1: John W. Gresham's General Merchandise Store, Beulaville, high noon, Friday, October 30, 1908.
Scene 2: The Park in London.
Scene 3: Graduation Exercises on the Grounds of the James Sprunt Institute, Kenansville, 4:00 P. M., on the afternoon of May 10, 1910.
Scene 4: The Park in London.
Scene 5: Outside the Warsaw Railroad Station, half an hour before "Shoo-fly" time, a night in May, 1917.
Scene 6: The Park in London.
Scene 7: Victory Sunday morning in Duplin County, August 19, 1945.

●
For the convenience of every member of the audience, patrons are requested to hold their seats until the amphitheatre lights are on at the close of each act.

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ACT I

- Scene 1: Kenansville High School.
Scene 2: Duplin County Negro Schools.
Scene 4: B. F. Grady School.
Scene 6: Wallace High School, with the support of Company M, 119th Infantry, North Carolina National Guard, Warsaw, and Beula-ville High School.
Scene 8: Magnolia High School, Calypso High School, Chinquapin High School, Faison High School.
Scene 9: Magnolia Civic Club.

ACT II

- Scene 1: Beulaville Lions Club.
Scene 3: Kenansville High School.
Scene 5: Warsaw Junior Chamber of Commerce.
Scene 7: Rose Hill Woman's Club.

Acknowledgements

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Amphitheatre grounds donated for the period of the production by Hampton D. Williams, Kenansville. The Wurlitzer Organ and Miss Richards' Wurlitzer Piano courtesy McGrath and Company, Wilmington. Amphitheatre lighting equipment courtesy Battery D, 150th AAA Gun Battalion, N. C. National Guard, Wallace. Brass Band courtesy the Goldsboro High School. Uniforms by A. T. Jones and Sons, Baltimore. Mr. Byrd's uniform by Pearlman's, Charleston, S. C. Makeup by Zauder Brothers, Inc., New York. Amplification by National School Supply Co., Inc., Raleigh. Special effects recordings by Thomas J. Valentino, New York. Production transfer and haulings by J. O. Stokes, Kenansville. Lighting equipment by Theatre Production Service, New York. Makeup supervised by Market Square Players, Fayetteville. Velvet Stage Curtain serviced by Ideal Laundry and Dry Cleaners, Wilmington.

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Characters In The Play

(In Order of Their Appearance)

Johnny Lambert	Sam Byrd	Martha	Sarah McKinney
A Commuter	Z. W. Frazelle	Bill Brinson	Garland Brown
Two Girl Students, Barbara Mitchell, Sally Newton		Frank Simmons	C. J. Guy
A Newsboy	Stephen Williamson	Alex Chambers	A. Q. Smith
A Nurse Maid	Frances Patterson	James Brown	Wendell Evans
Two Shoppers	Pearl C. McGowen, H. E. Phillips	Jere Strickland	Herbert Lanier
Jennifer Carrington	Patricia Bolam	LaFayette Brown	Howard Chestnutt
Tony Carrington	Albert Outlaw, Jr.	A Young Confederate	Wade Gaylor
A Man	O. P. Johnson	Colonel Tom Kenan	L. H. Fussell
A Foreman	A. O. Williamson	Hargett Kornegay	Allen Turner
Two Children	Lowell Carr, Samuel Carr	Alex Guy	Johnnie Pope
A Boy	John Videll James	Major Owen Kenan	Herman Pippin
Two Dancers		Annie Kenan	Willie Sprunt Newkirk
	Beatrice Kenan, George Best Williams	Jim Halso	Austin Baker
Molly Bright	Edith Hinnant Dickerson	Tom Davis	Darwin Evans
Henry McCulloch	L. C. Prater	Jere Pearsall	J. N. Horne
Mr. Jarvis	J. H. Dotson	Jesse Horne	Lloyd Pope
Mr. Pidcock	Gaston F. Grady	Jack Smith	Melvin Pope
Dr. William Houston	H. M. Wells	Sally Dortch	Ellen Sheffield
Mrs. Ann Houston	Effie Outlaw	Calvin Rogers	Pearlie Lanier
Archibald Houston	E. Morton Sills	Two Confederates	Sam Carr, J. P. Smith
John Porter	M. B. Holt	Stephen Gresham	Adolph Jones
Mrs. Porter	Bessie Holt	Willie Gresham	Marion S. Bratcher
Edward Matchet	Herman Outlaw	Hiram Thomas	William G. Jones, Jr.
William Lewis	John D. Grady	Henry Miller	Arnold E. Thomas
Mr. Miller	Franklin Quinn	Dave Hugh Wallace	Grady Mercer
Mrs. Miller	Lillian Hoffer	Rodolph Duffy	Willie F. Miller
Mr. Hill	Earl Williams	J. J. Bowden	William D. Thigpen
Mrs. Hill	Ada Williams	James H. Carlton	Carlyle C. Raynor
Mr. Outlaw	James Allen Williams	Graham G. Best	Ransom Mercer
Mrs. Outlaw	Alice Rogers	C. M. Middleton	Herman M. Henderson
Miss Berringer	Eleanor Gay Herring	John A. Gavin, Jr.	J. Roland Edwards
Edward Smith	Melvin Williams	Charles Vann	Wm. Robert Mathews
Clarence Miller	Johnnie Williams	O. W. Quinn	James Miller
Charlie Baxter	Corwin Rife	Calvin Thomas	LeRoy Albertson
Colonel James Kenan	W. W. Hasty	I. J. Sandlin	I. J. Sandlin, Jr.
A Messenger	Johnny Durham	Marshall Bishop	John Miller
Captain Thomas James	Harry Boney	George Cavenaugh	Hosea Hunter
An American Flagbearer	Adron Goodman	Lem Brown	Lemuel F. Brown
Major Griffen	Marvin Brackin	C. V. Thomas	Raymond L. Davis
Lieutenant Laurens	Horace Whaley	Lloyd Thomas	William D. Brown
A Picket	Elbert Blanton	A Boy	Billy Bostic
Major Craig	Henry C. Merritt	Lon Middleton	J. Macon Brown
Captain Gordon	James F. Miller	Dr. G. W. Kennedy	Raybourne Kennedy
2nd Messenger	J. R. King	Mrs. J. E. L. Winecoff	Mattie Sadler
Captain James Kenan	William Walker	Rev. J. E. L. Winecoff	William E. Craft
Charlie Prince	Harding Powers	Miss Elsie Griffen	Katherine Wallace
Mammy Til	Bessie W. Carr	Miss Katherine Brown	Louise K. Boney
Mrs. Owen Kenan	Margaret Fussell	Miss Susan Maxwell Geddie	Violette Phillips
Lewis	Romus Kornegay	Miss Fannie Gray Farrior	Mary Anna Allen
An Orderly	J. H. Daughtry	Miss Mary Grace Alford	Mable Burgess
Lieutenant Thomas J. Bostic	Walker McNeil	Mrs. John Atkinson Ferrell	Elery Guthrie
A Soldier on Horseback	McDonald Carr	Miss Mary Moore Sloan	Nell Quinn
Two Soldiers	Clarence Malpass, Graham Beasley	Eugene Winecoff	Emory Sadler, Jr.
A Soldier	L. E. Pope	Liston Mallard	Edwin Lee Register, Jr.
A Farmer	L. G. Turner	Agnes Ashely Council	Ruth Byrd Wells
Tom Bostic	Gordon Wilson	Mary Catherine Council	Betty Whitfield
Ben Hall	A. W. Croom	Kate Connor Jones	Mary Lou Summerlin
William Blalock	Dallas Jones, Jr.	Elizabeth M. Loftin	Shirley Tyndall
A Foot Soldier	N. T. Pickett	Carrie Bryan Sloan	Angela Daughtry
A Blind Soldier	Clifton Chestnutt	Julia Elizabeth Thompson	Theo Hollingsworth



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CHARACTERS IN THE PLAY—Continued

Rachel Maxwell	Mary Beth Southerland
Lloyd McGowen	James Edward Brinson
Blossom Gavin	Norma Mazo
Winnifred M. Turlington	Mary Sue Burch
David H. Bridgers	William E. Hines, Jr.
Robert S. Brock	A. Mitchell Britt
Mrs. Blanche Wilson	Colene Bartlett
Walter P. Bridgers	E. H. Butler
Station Agent	J. J. Armstrong
Charles R. Gavin	John Anderson Johnson
Leona	Helen Brown
Chancy Carlton	Woodrow Blackburn
Edwin Snyder Woodward	William E. Bartlett
Susie Faison	Mary Packer
The Sergeant	James N. West
Ralph J. Jones	William Boyette
Edgar D. Pollock	Lee E. Brown
James S. Price	William Y. Vann
Adolph L. Pridgen	Robert L. Bolick
Thomas H. Rhodes	William Best
Gordon Middleton	Charles Hale
Levi Moore	John N. Fonvielle
Paul Outlaw	N. A. Mitchell
John M. Pierce	H. C. Allen
Dudley B. Hill	Wilbur Boney
Two Altar Boys	

James H. Cottle, Jr., James Davis Fussell

The Minister Lauren R. Sharpe

Tobacco Field Chorus: Isabelle McGowen, Annie McCann, Berta B. Kornegay, Maude S. Horton, Robert A. Merritt, Luther J. Sutton, Mildred J. Davis, Ozie M. B. Wilson, Cornelia Best, Adele Whitehead, Mary K. Smith, Pearl M. Maye, Rachel Batts, M. A. Monk, F. M. James, B. L. Beaty, Edith Hinnant Dickerson, W. E. Smith, T. A. Thompson, A. H. Brewington, Julia Galbreith, Beulah B. Larkin, Zettie Brinson, G. A. Maye, J. B. Dafford, Lillie B. Hall, Johnny Williams, Jr., Thelma D. Brown, Thelma Outlaw, Ruby Whitehead, Geraldine Nobles, Janet Middleton, Leo Middleton, Sue Dell McCallop, Thurman Cooper, George Best Williams, Beatrice Kenan.

Children At The Tobacco Barn: Dorothy L. Merritt, Lorraine Brinson, John A. Southerland, Grace Middleton, Doratha Southerland, Mary H. Middleton, Margaret Ann Faison, Janie M. Miller, Dorothy Murphy, Louetta Savage, Veronia Kenan, Rosetta Cooper, Helen Cooper, Barbara Faison, Delia Faison, Pethual Hall, Mary L. Prigeon, Norma L. Sharpless, Leo Judge, Normal Sharpless.

Bargemen: L. G. Kornegay, Ray Franklin Smith, Gilbert Smith, Robert Smith.

Indian Men: Bobby Paige, Robert Hines, Herman Houston.

Indians: Bettie Rae Quinn, Bettie Sue Turner, Ruth Ann Harper, Helon Smith, Geraldine Williams, Judy Dell Wallace, Norma Allen Smith, Benny Rogers, Shelby Jean Williams, Don Wells.

Minuet Dancers: Carolyn Outlaw, Kenneth Smith, Connie Jo Wells, George Westbrook, Lewis Westbrook, Melvin Williams, Patricia Herring, Virginia Ann Simmons, Hugh Smith, Jr., Brenda Grady, Hess Davis, Jr., Ralph Gene Dotson, Carole Williams, Ben Scott Turner, Bobby Jock Herring.

Highland Fling Dancers: Peggy Jean Grady, Nancy Evelyn Alphin, Lou Gene Smith, Marilyn Stroud, Jeanette Kelly, Millie Burch, Dianne Stokes, Emogene Williams.

British Soldiers: Willard Hardison, Roland Quinn, Raburn Lanier, Ervin Dobson, Jimmy Johnson, Donald Miller, Bobby Miller, Frederick Albertson, A. F. Shaw, Murphy Thigpen, Jerry Thigpen, Richard McDonald, Waitus Cowan, David Allen Sandlin, Alfred Basden, Ellie Ray Maready, Precely Quinn, Ted Clark, Elwood Batts, Elbert Jones,

Adonis Quinn, Donald Edwards, Harold Cottle, W. D. Bostic, Robert Rhodes, Lynwood Feutal, Jimmy Norris, Roger Everton, Ervin Whaley, Horace Rhodes, Harry L. Brown, William Sutton, Rodney Hall, Harmon Register, Lonnie Thornton, Jerrel Quinn, Boyce Boyette, John Jenkins, Arnold Jones, Milton Smith, Robert Costin, Frank Bell, Grover Hall, Corbett Register, Arnold R. Strickland, Marshall Jones, Paul Berry, Bobby Boone, William Houston, Carl Pate, Charles Guy, Leamon Mathis, Sam Martin, Harmon Register, Milton Smith, Harry Murphy, Robert J. Costin, Julius Steed, Robert Creech, N. Lewis.

American Militiamen: Cecil Outlaw, Wendell Alphin, J. C. King, Hubert Kornegay, Billy Summerlin, Derald Brown, R. C. Thigpen, Donald Murphy, K. W. Casteen, Ray Sanderson, Jesse Hall, Billy Jones, Emmerson Pridgen, Richard Best.

The Duplin Rifles: Ralph Best, Jr., Joe Jackson, Bernell Miller, Harold Stanley, Ellsworth Dail, Morris Wiggins, Boyd Barfield, Johnnie Letchworth, Roy Brock, Frank Barfield, Lothy Williams, J. W. Mozingo, Donald Whitfield, Graham Lewis, Kenneth Kennedy, Rodney Lambert, Wyatt Roberts, Don Guy, Leslie Nunn, Douglas Pigford, Charles Guy, Billy Nunn, Warren Herring, Victor Taylor, Frank Precythe, Jack Adams, Cub Adams, Jerry Fouts, Curtis Cates, Brooks Cates, Charles Lee, Gerald Aman, Tommy Faison, Richard Byrd, Jack Hobbs, Ray Taylor, Floyd Sutton, Lloyd Sutton, Tommy Cottle, Ronald Bell, Roy James, Donald R. Matthews, Jimmy Padgett, Buster Precythe, Rayburn Batchelor, Freddie Futreal, Gerald Morton, Delaney Evans, Shelton Lanier, Carl Brown, James E. Lanier, D. C. Futral, Rudy Halso, Earnest Jarman, Glen Maready, James Norris, Bradley Wall, Rifton Maready, J. T. Easter, Edwin Lanier, Lois Williams, N. E. Gresham, Jr., Conrad Sloan.

Children at Beulaville: Ella Rose Mercer, Roslyn Janet Trott, Jackie Williams, Royce Jones, Michael J. Miller.

The Duplin County Square Dancers: James A. Ward and Peggy Ward, J. I. Smith and Mrs. J. I. Smith, R. B. Dickson and Martha Dickson, R. F. Knowles and Mrs. Lillie Belle Brummitt, Faison Smith and Mrs. Faison Smith, Clifton J. Knowles and Mrs. Lina Potter, Charlton Sandlin and Mrs. J. D. Sandlin, Horace Ward and Mrs. Horace Ward, Clarence Murphy and Mrs. Clarence Murphy, A. L. Ward and Mrs. A. L. Ward, Charles Knowles and Shirley Wilson, Jack Brinson and Macy Brinson, J. L. Williams and Margaret Williams, Faison Delano Smith and Lou Gene Smith, Larry Bostic and Margaret B. Edwards, Clarence Boone and Mrs. Clarence Boone, B. F. Outlaw and Mrs. B. F. Outlaw.

Musicians at Beulaville: Donald Stroud and his "Dixie Pals," J. C. Bryant, Lynwood Brinkley, Charles Albertson.

Students at the James Sprunt Institute: Juniors—Sarah Brown, Hazel Parker, Katie Mae Quinn, Mary Lee Rouse, Jesse Ruth Brown; Sophomores—Patricia Bell, Carol Burgess, Sarah West Outlaw, Mattie Brown, Katherine Quinn, Juanita Dunn, Jeanette Matthis; Freshmen—Florrie Currie, Nadine Brinson, Gail Newton, Rebecca Grady, Betty Ingram, Patsy Quinn, Marjorie Jones, Sylvia Gooding.

Townpeople at the Warsaw Railroad Station: Mary Elizabeth Packer, Joyce Jones, Coleen Bartlette, Peggy Mitchell, Patsy Kornegay, Betty Phillips, Mary Gray Davis, Dorothy Eason, Stella Herring, Doris Mozingo, Aline Ritter, Gertrude Steed, Charlotte Frederickson, Ann Bowden, Dorothy Blackburn, Carol Carlton, Claudia Carlton.

Victory Sunday Choir: Susie S. Teachey, Annie L. Rouse, Adell Cottle, Elizabeth J. Butler, Katherine Cottle, Adelaide Fussell, Mamie Ruth Teachey, Anita Fussell, Ethel S. Johnson, Lerlene Cottle, Nettie R. Williams, Louise W. Fussell, Lynnette Murphy, Nellie Graham Teachey, Patsy Murphy, Faye Teachey, Bobby Anne Scott, Daisy M. Fussell, Virginia C. Troy, Lyda S. Latham, Mary Ruth Fussell, Alma D. Wells, Edna L. Fussell, Anne J. Herring, Lulu S. Herring, Nell C. Carr, Annie Louise Ward, Pearl C. Lanier, Elizabeth B. Fussell, Jessie Moore, Jessie D. Fussell, Myra D. Butler.



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G. E. ALPHIN, JR.

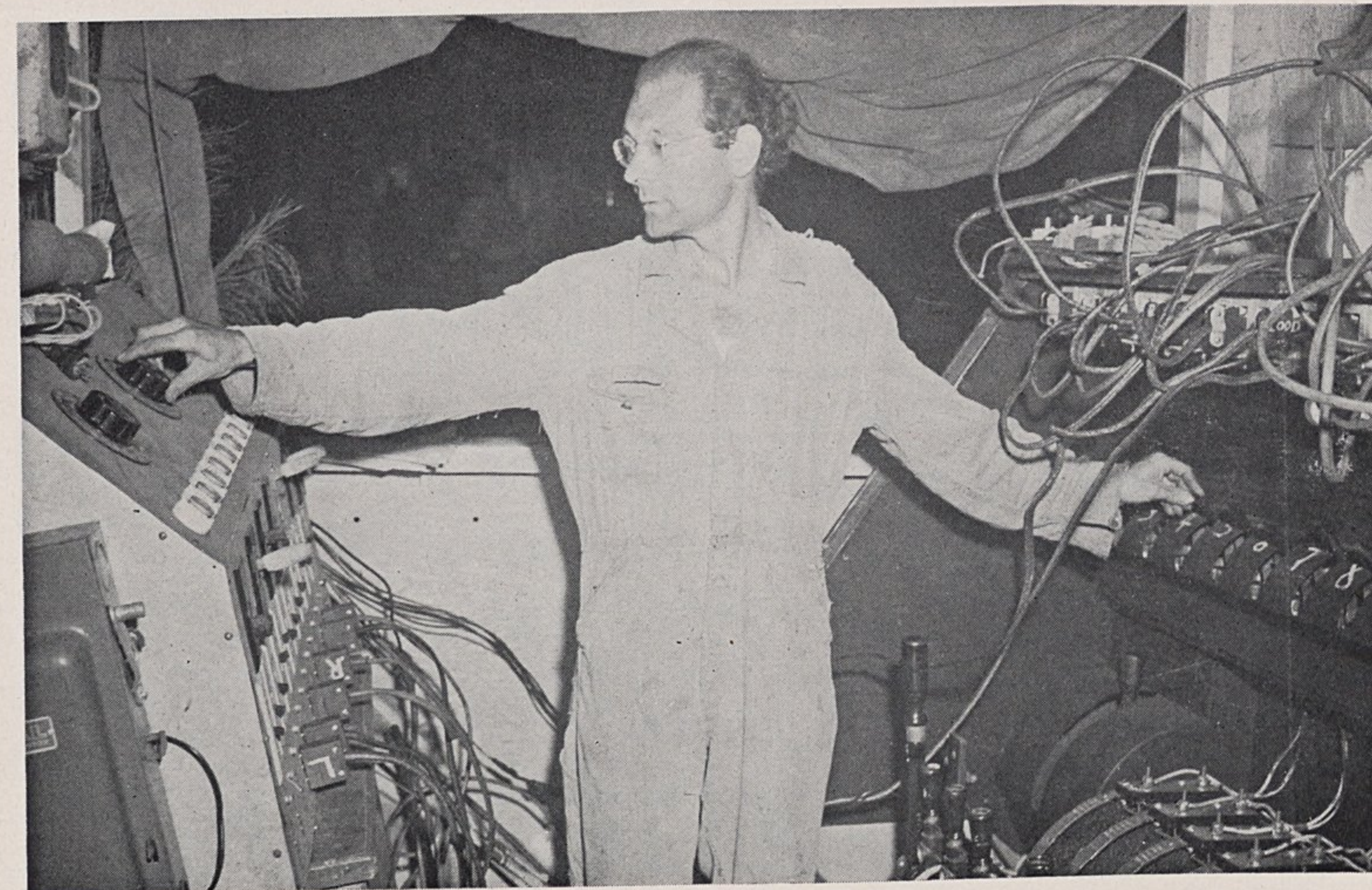
The outstanding success of last year's production of "The Duplin Story" was in a large measure due to the splendid interest and cooperation of our own Duplin County citizens, and one of our main leaders in stimulating that interest and cooperation was Gilbert E. Alphin, Jr., who was then president of the Duplin County Historical Association, under whose auspices the production was planned and staged.

A native of the Wolfscrape Township of Duplin County, Mr. Alphin was born and bred with a love for his native section. After attending the Mount Olive grammar school, however, he went to the Glen Alpine high school in the western part of North Carolina and then entered business at Morganton.

His father, G. E. Alphin, Sr., had long owned a store and farm in Duplin County and the son returned to this section to take over the operation of those two business enterprises. For a time he was a fertilizer salesman in the area, then went into business for himself. Since 1947 he has been Duplin County's tax collector.

For the past year he, his wife and their five children have resided at Kenansville. He is a former president and zone chairman of the Lions Club, a Mason and Shriner, and a steward in the Bethel Methodist Church.

Residents of this county appreciate his hard work and keen interest in devoting so much of his time to helping put over "The Duplin Story" so successfully and to assisting as such a splendid leader last year as head of its sponsoring organization.



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Duplin County Coroner

Justice of the Peace

DEALER IN REAL ESTATE

PROPERTY FOR SALE IN KENANSVILLE

The Duplin Story Choir

(Continued)

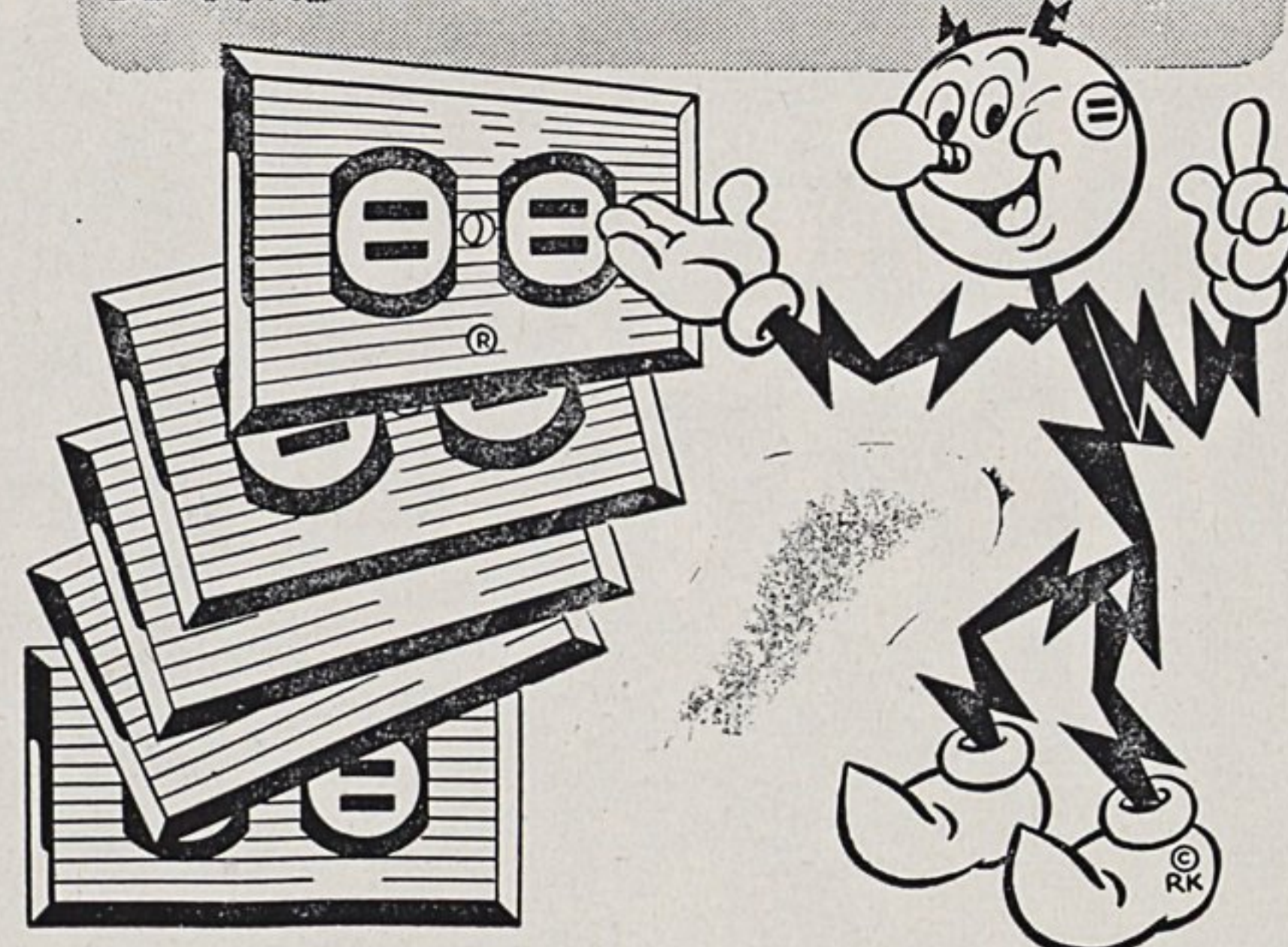
J. E. Sheffield
Jim Grady
Henry West, Jr.
Kirby J. Smith
Shirley Wilson
Jessie F. Murphy
Mrs. L. C. Alderman
Barbara Wilson
Lucille Bowden
Hazel Ruth Kornegay
Annie Thelma Harmon
Dee Gresham
Helen Newbold
Mary Esther Futreal
Carolyn Sasser
Miriam Turner
Virginia A. Smith
Mrs. Thelma Stroud
Elizabeth S. Patterson
R. F. Wadkins
B. W. Grady
Mrs. Louise Mitchell
J. M. Currie
Peggy Ward
Lorena B. Vestal
Mrs. Dixon Wood
Quinnie Brinson
Hazel Lewis
Mary Edna Waters
Mildred Stevens
Florence Sheffield

Elsie Morton
Betty Jean Johnson
Shelby Sheffield
Mabel G. Broadhurst
Virginia D. Holland
Clara R. Carr
Sanford Packer
R. V. Wells
E. V. Vestal
Norwood McCullen
Elizabeth F. Lanier
Bertha S. Hollingsworth
Bob Herring
Margaret Reynolds
Wilma Grey Rivenbark
Thelma Dilday
Martha Potter
Eula Lee Britt
Mary Lee Raynor
Zada Lee Southerland
Barbara Tucker
Mary Anna Grady
Margaret Dail
Dora B. Bell
Maude P. Smith
Mrs. George Bennett
Virginia Easley
Myrtle K. Quinn
M. T. Tucker
Leonard L. Jennett

Rifton Raynor
Joan Maready
Fred Pickett
H. S. Waite
Eugenie Quinn
Roy Sanderson
Helen Smith
Mrs. John Pierce
Mrs. Allen Draughan, Sr.
Jennie K. Sanderson
Amos Q. Brinson
James Robert Southerland
Molly James
Nancy Norris
J. S. Blair
Steve Mallard
Kate Futrell
Janice Brown
Evelyn Grown
Mrs. Park Pridgen
Ruby G. Newton
Wilbert A. Jones
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Lillie M. B. Waters
Willie P. Fennell
Bertha W. Murphy
Allie C. Newkirk
Carrie B. Batts
J. B. Boney
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M. H. Brown
M. L. Moore
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O. Inez Brown
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J. B. Dafford
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Beulah M. Washington
Catherine Dudley

Lola Baggett Chasten
Othell Faison Brock
Alpha L. Thompson
F. H. Livingston
J. V. Summersett
Hattie Royall
Lena M. Branche
H. E. Gill
Sallie L. Kornegay
T. M. Moore
Annie Mae Kenion
Dorothy B. Thorpe
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L. B. Newby
Hattie Royal
L. F. Grimes
Mattie Pierce
Eula Boney
Perry Thompson
G. Robinson Davis
A. D. Williams
Bernard Boney
T. A. Stevens
Evelyn Henry Price
M. B. Morris
W. Juanita T. Brown

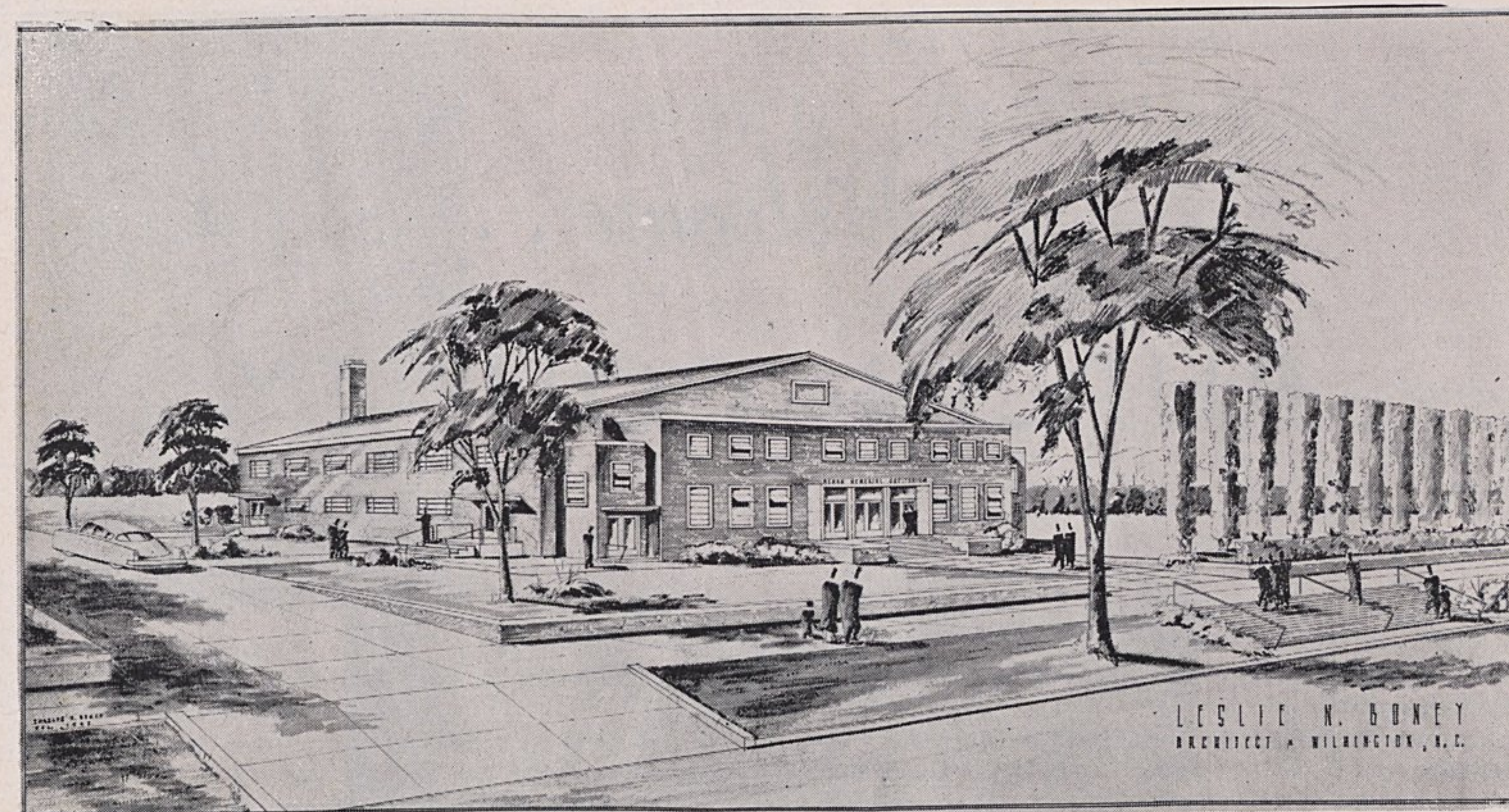
Isabelle McGowan
Minnie J. Branch
Annie McCann
Berta B. Kornegay
Sudie Stackhouse
Maude S. Horton
Robert A. Merritt
Luther J. Sutton
Mildred J. Davis
Ozie M. B. Wilson
Cornelia Best
Adele Whitehead
Mary K. Smith
Pearl M. Maye
F. H. Murry
Rachel Batts
M. A. Monk
F. M. James
B. L. Beaty
W. E. Smith
T. A. Thompson
A. H. Brewington
Julia Galbreith
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GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA



Shown above is architect's rendering the new Kenan Memorial Auditorium. The building will be located just north of the Kenansville High School on the Kenansville-Kinston Highway. This drawing as well as plans and specifications for the project were prepared by Leslie N. Boney, Architect, Wilmington, N. C. Construction will be done by E. F. Taylor Co.

KENAN MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

The Kenan Memorial Auditorium, illustrated above, is an important addition to the school system and community life of Duplin County.

The building is being built as a memorial to the Kenan family and is made possible by the substantial contributions of Mrs. Jessie Kenan Wise, Mrs. Graham Kenan and Mr. William Rand Kenan. Supplementary money is being provided by local contributions and funds made available by the Board of Commissioners and Board of Education of Duplin County. Proceeds from "The Duplin Story" are also to apply on completion of this building.

This building is almost completed, and is a realization of a dream of many years of Mr. O. P. Johnson, Superintendent of Duplin County Schools. It is largely through his untiring efforts in planning, organizing and directing that this building has become a reality. While the structure is a county-wide function in every way, it fills a long-felt need for the county schools in providing an adequate and permanent building for educational gatherings of all kinds.

As a part of the ever expanding educational facilities the structure will not only provide a gymnasium and supplementary physical education program for the high school but it will also provide an auditorium, a meeting place for county-wide gatherings of all kinds. Containing a lobby, ticket and concession areas, the building will also provide ample storage facilities, men and women toilets, and locker and shower facilities for both home

and visiting athletic teams of boys and girls. The large stage at the rear of the building is equipped with dressing rooms and toilets.

The general exterior construction is of brick with cinder block back-up and stone trim. Locker and shower facilities will be tiled. Steel roof trusses 100 feet in length provide a clear span and unobstructed area for reviewing stage and athletic programs. The main floor area will be maple and provides space for two practice courts or one college regulations basketball court.

When equipped for a stage program the main floor can be provided with removable seats. When used for basketball, boxing or other indoor athletic events, approximately 2,300 patrons will be comfortably seated in stadiums on each side above the locker rooms and above the front entrance, and in rollaway seats to be installed on the playing floor.

This mammoth auditorium is 102 feet wide and 142 feet long and is one of many public buildings planned by Leslie N. Boney, architect, of Wilmington, N. C. Mr. Boney, a native of Duplin County from Wallace, has been architect for the Board of Education since 1923 and has prepared the plans for more than 40 separate school contracts including new buildings and additions, during this period.

The county is now planning to build more than \$500,000 worth of additional school facilities as a part of the state 50 million dollar expansion program.

... Welcome ...

DUPLIN COUNTY



Duplin County Court House
Built in 1912

Duplin County is located in the Coastal Plains and rich agricultural section of the state. There are nine incorporated towns in the county. It is served by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad and hard-surfaced roads in all directions with good farm-to-market roads.

Principal Crops Are Tobacco (9th in State), Hogs (6th in World), Cotton, Corn, Strawberries, Cucumbers, Potatoes, Beans, and Blueberries.

Principal Industries Are Canning and Preserving Fruits and Vegetables, Lumber and Millwork, Packing Crates and Containers, Stock and Poultry Feeds, Corn Meal



An announcement has appeared in the county papers concerning the opening of schools for the 1950-51 season.

This is the one hundred and ninth year of public schools in Duplin and it has been announced that the schools will play a prominent part in the coming mid-century showing of Sam Byrd's "Duplin Story" drama. Therefore the following outline of Duplin's early schools should be appropriate at this time.—A. T. O.

* * *

During the years 1839 and 1840 the General Assembly of North Carolina provided for a state-wide system of schools. The counties were authorized to name a board of school superintendents, lay off districts, appoint committeemen, levy a tax, build houses, employ teachers and start the schools. It was provided that county taxes be supplemented by funds from the State Literary Fund. That fund had been created for school purposes. Judge Archibald D. Murphey of Orange County was generally regarded as the father of the entire plan, due to his untiring efforts in that respect, but he did not live to see the beginning of the system. Prior to that time only those who were able to pay for private instruction or for board and tuition at an academy had any educational advantages.

Under the acts of the Assembly the question of schools or no schools was made optional with the counties. Duplin County promptly fell in line with the plan and the County Court proceeded to set up the machinery and levy a tax for schools. The Court met in April, 1841, with the following named members present, to-wit: Benjamin F. Grady, Chairman; Cornelius McMillan, Nicholas Hall, Thomas Stanford and Jesse Swinson. A majority of the Justices being present it was ordered that a Board of Superintendents of Schools be appointed consisting of the following named persons, to-wit: John E. Hussey, Archibald Maxwell, David Sloan, Atlas J. Grady, Joseph T. Rhodes, Benjamin Lanier, Daniel Jones, Cornelius McMillan and James G. Stokes. Capt. David Sloan was made Chairman of the board and gave bond in the

HISTORY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN DUPLIN COUNTY

By A. T. OUTLAW
Register of Deeds

sum of \$2,500, with Owen R. Kenan and Halstead Bourden as bondsmen. The first school tax was levied in January, 1841, at the rate of five cents on the one hundred dollars valuation of property and ten cents on the poll. School districts were designated and committeemen were appointed, substantially as follows:

First district in the neighborhood of the Meadow meeting-house with Thomas Burton, Nathan Murray and John James as committeemen.

Second district in the Fountain neighborhood near Capt. John Fountain with Capt. Fountain, Howell Brown and Mathew Brinson as committeemen.

Third district in the neighborhood of Dennis Pickett with Dennis Pickett, James Lanier and Jesse Batts as committeemen.

Fourth district in the neighborhood of Col. John E. Hussey with Gregory Thomas, John Bostic and Jesse Brown, Jr., as committeemen.

Fifth district in the Sandlin neighborhood with Henry Sandlin, Drew Hall and Thomas P. Hall as committeemen.

Sixth district in the neighborhood of Joseph T. R. Miller with Joseph T. R. Miller, William H. Rhodes and James L. Smith as committeemen.

Seventh district in the neighborhood of Capt. Jones Smith with Dr. James H. Jarman, William Williams and John Smith as committeemen.

Eighth district in the Grady neighborhood with Sherwood Grady, James P. Davis and Daniel H. Simmons as committeemen.

Ninth district in the Outlaw's Bridge section with Capt. William Outlaw, Bryan K. Outlaw and Edward Outlaw, Sr., as committeemen.

Tenth district in the neighborhood of James Winders with Giles T. Loftin, James Sullivan and James Winders as committeemen.

Eleventh district in the John Carr neighborhood with Dr. James G. Dickson, Benjamin Oliver and John Carr as committeemen.

Twelfth district in what is now Glisson Township with Harget Kornegay, William Herring and Mark Keithley as committeemen.

Thirteenth district near the home of Calvin J. Dickson with James Gillespie, Levi Swinson and Calvin Dickson as committeemen.

Fourteenth district in the Faison section with Elias Faison, James Hicks and Joseph B. Hurst as committeemen.

Fifteenth district in the neighborhood of Dr. Buckner L. Hill with Col. C. D. Hill, William W. Faison and John Shine as committeemen.

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History of Public Education in Duplin County (Continued)

Sixteenth district in the neighborhood of Alfred Guy with A. T. Stanford, Daniel Newton and Alfred Guy as committeemen.

Seventeenth district near the home of Col. James K. Hill with Colonel Hill, Daniel Swinson and B. Williams as committeemen.

Eighteenth district in the neighborhood of Jonathan Gore with Capt. John Blanchard, John Pollock and Patrick Ezzell as committeemen.

Nineteenth district in the neighborhood of James Patterson with Rolin Best, John Frederick and Michael Boyette as committeemen.

Twentieth district in the neighborhood of Joseph Groves with Jacob Wells, William Wells and Jacob Taylor as committeemen.

Twenty-first district in the neighborhood of Capt. Stephen Williams with James K. Williams, Zack Williams and John Peterson as committeemen.

Twenty-second district in the neighborhood of Solomon Turner with Col. Wright Boney, Capt. Boney Wells and William Usher as committeemen.

Twenty-third district in the neighborhood of Wimbrick Boney with Wells Boney, Hiram Murray and Henry Teachey as committeemen.

Twenty-fourth district in the Ward neighborhood with Alfred Ward, Stephen Williams and John W. Boney as committeemen.

Twenty-fifth district in the neighborhood of James Mallard with John Mallard, Joseph Brooks and John Powell as committeemen.

Twenty-sixth district in the neighborhood of Capt. John Whitehead with Captain Whitehead, James Maxwell and John Dobson as committeemen.

Twenty-seventh district in the Carroll neighborhood with John D. Carroll, William Carr and Ozborn Carr as committeemen.

Twenty-eighth district in the neighborhood of the Grove church near Kenansville with Capt. James Carroll, Henry Moore and John Forlaw as committeemen.

Twenty-ninth district in the neighborhood of Dark Branch with Maj. George E. Houston, William D. Pearsall and Richard Miller as committeemen.

Thirtieth District in the neighborhood of Beaverdam Church, now Magnolia, with Thomas Stanford, William Swinson and John Swinson as committeemen.

A list of the first teachers would be very interesting but that information has not been found. Only three deeds were given for school sites during the year 1841. The first was by Mary Heath and others for a site on a branch of Beaverdam, dated September 23, 1841. The second was by Daniel Swinson for a school at Friendship, dated September 29, 1841, and the third was by Owen West for a site adjoining the Carlton meeting house, dated October 18, 1841. A number of sites were given during the next year. During recent years the consolidated schools somewhat take the place of the original system.

It is also an interesting fact that prior to and even after the beginning of public schools, Duplin County ranked among the foremost counties of the State in the number of private educational institutions. Many of North Carolina's most distinguished sons were students in Duplin's early institutions. Some of these institutions operated for only a short time and others lasted until recent years. A list of them, possibly incomplete, is as follows:

GROVE ACADEMY. Located near the present town of Kenansville, was established during the year 1785. The original trustees were Colonel Thomas Routledge, General James Kenan, Colonel David Dodd, Colonel William Dickson, Major James Gillespie, Major Thomas Gray, John James, Israel Bordeaux and Joseph Dickson. It will be seen that this old academy was established prior to our State University. With few intermissions, it was in operation until about thirty years ago.

ANGEL ACADEMY. Located on Blake's Mill branch, a branch of Rockfish, in the southern part of the County near the present town of Wallace. The date of organization and the names of trustees cannot be given. In Book 3A, page 149, of Duplin County Registry, it is referred to as "Angel's School House," dated 1794.

GREENE ACADEMY. Location at present unknown and no definite information is at hand concerning it. It was organized about the year 1813.

GOSHEN ACADEMY. Located in the upper Goshen section of the County and near the home of Benjamin Hodges. It was organized about the year 1813-14. No further information.

About the year 1814 there was an act of the General Assembly "to establish a free school in Duplin" but no definite information can be given at this time.

FRIENDSHIP ACADEMY. Located in the Friendship Community, was established by an Act of the General Assembly in the year 1823. The original trustees were Colonel David Hooks, Colonel James K. Hill, Marshall H. Hooks, Henry Winders, Robert McGowen, Andrew Hurst, Thomas Molton, Robert Middleton and David Wright.

WILLIAMS ACADEMY. Located in the neighborhood of the Cooper old mill, was established during the year 1825. The trustees were General William L. Hill, John Cooper, Benjamin Cooper, Blaney Williams, Branch Williams, Francis Williams, Robert Middleton, David Middleton, Libeus Middleton, James Middleton, Benjamin Best, Sr., Benjamin Best, Jr., Herrald Blackmore, John Boyette and Thomas Phillips.

LINE ACADEMY. Located in Sampson County just across the Duplin-Sampson line and was really a Duplin-Sampson institution. It was established during the year 1825. Six of the original thirteen trustees were citizens of Duplin, as follows: Colonel Thomas Kenan, Daniel L. Kenan, John W. Whitfield, James M. Nixon, William Wright and John Beck Wright. The others of the original trustees were citizens of Sampson, as follows: Thomas K. Morrissey, William Morrissey,

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Technical Director, and Artists of

"The Duplin Story"

History of Public Education in Duplin County (Continued)

Daniel Joyner, Curtis Thomson, Wright Faison, Thomas I. Faison and John Haywood Hicks.

BETHEL ACADEMY. Located in the lower Goshen neighborhood and near where Wesley church now stands. It was established in the year 1828. The original trustees were Reverend David O. Shattuck, General Stephen Miller, Richard Miller, George Miller, Major George E. Houston, James Pearsall, Jeremiah Pearsall, James Chambers, Charles Chambers, John Chambers and Howell Best.

HANNAH MOORE ACADEMY. Located in the lower Goshen neighborhood and only a few miles from the Bethel Academy. The date of organization cannot be given. In a deed from James Pearsall, dated 1837, the following named persons were trustees: General Stephen Miller, Richard Miller, Jeremiah Pearsall, William D. Pearsall, Edward Hill, Thomas Hill, Herrald Blackmore, Harper Williams, James M. Larkins and John Oliver.

WASHINGTON ACADEMY. Located in the Outlaw's Bridge community. It was established prior to or about the year 1848. In a deed from Captain William Outlaw, dated 1848, the following named persons were trustees: Bryan K. Outlaw, Joseph W. Outlaw, Grady Outlaw, James Outlaw, and George Outlaw.

DUNN-FAISON ACADEMY. Located in the neighborhood of the present town of Faison, organized prior to or about the year 1842. In a deed from James Dunn, dated 1842, the following named persons were trustees: G. W. Huffham, James Hicks, Kilby Faison and Isham Hicks.

WARSAW HIGH SCHOOL. Located at Warsaw, was established about the year 1855. In a deed from General William L. Hill, dated January 25, 1855, the following named persons were trustees: Colonel Abner M. Faison, Felix B. Millard and Curtis C. Oates.

MAGNOLIA MALE ACADEMY. Located at Magnolia, was incorporated March 31, 1858. The academy site was given by Milton K. DeVane, Leonard A. Merriman, Alfred M. Rackley and James B. B. Monk.

MAGNOLIA GRADED SCHOOL. Located at Magnolia, was authorized by an act of the General Assembly of 1883, and operated for several years. Dr. M. K. DeVane, Dr. McMillan, G. W. Grinkley, Henry Hollingsworth, and H. E. Newberry were the original trustees.

LA PLACE ACADEMY. Located in the northern end of the county, was organized prior to or about the year 1861. In a deed from Benjamin F. Cobb, dated 1861, the following named persons were trustees: Isham Southerland and Alexander S. Davis.

FRANKLIN MILITARY INSTITUTE. Located a few miles east of Faison, was organized a short time prior to the Civil War and was operated by Captain Claude B. Denson. Practically all of the students entered the service of the Confederacy in a company commanded by Captain Denson.

KENANSVILLE SEMINARY. Located at Kenansville, was organized about the year 1856 as

shown by a deed from Dr. Needham W. Herring to the trustees, dated July 10, 1856. In the year 1861 the trustees were as follows: Ozbourn Carr, James Dickson, Dickson Mallard, James E. Hall, Robert B. Carr, James B. Carr, James M. Sprunt, Owen R. Kenan, Isaac B. Kelly, Chauncy W. Graham and William E. Hill. The Seminary was later known as Webster Institute and was purchased by Prof. R. W. Millard who operated the school for many years.

OAK GROVE ACADEMY. Located in the Pollock neighborhood. In a deed from Alfred W. Pollock, dated August 28, 1888, the following named persons were trustees: L. C. Carlton, J. R. Wilson and R. F. Best.

JAMES SPRUNT INSTITUTE. Located at Kenansville. It was established in 1896 by Henry Farrior, Sr., and Dr. James W. Blount of Kenansville. In a deed from them, dated August, 1897, the following named persons were the original trustees: Henry Farrior, Sr., Dr. James W. Blount, Oscar Pearsall, A. F. Johnson, J. D. Currie, R. V. Lancaster, Peter McIntire, James Sprunt and B. F. Hall. This Institute was in operation until a few years ago.

FAISON HIGH SCHOOL. Located at Faison. It was established during the year 1901. In a deed from Isham R. Faison, dated November 12, 1901, the following named persons were trustees: Dr. John M. Faison, I. L. Faison, B. B. Witherington, A. F. Johnson, W. M. Cummings, R. M. Williams, L. P. Best, S. H. Isler, Dr. H. L. Smith, and D. W. McGeachey. This institution was in active operation for a number of years.

ELHANAN SCHOOL. Located at Charity. It was organized in February, 1904. In a deed from O. W. Moore the following named persons were trustees: D. H. Murphy, Henry Farrior, George W. Gaylor, W. L. Bryan and O. W. Rouse.

FAISON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. Located at Faison and was organized for colored people during the year 1903. The following named persons served as trustees: A. R. Middleton, D. A. Williams, H. C. Wright, I. S. Moore, N. Moore, S. C. Carroll, Peter Johnson and R. A. Spears.

The foregoing outline of the county schools proves the statement often made that the calibre of the people of Duplin County compares favorably with any county in the State. A large number of men who attended school in Duplin became conspicuous in the affairs of the County, State and Nation. A complete list could not be given but only a few now in mind will be mentioned:

Dr. William Dickson, a physician, who moved from this neighborhood to Tennessee and became Speaker of the State House of Representatives and three times a member of Congress from that State.

Rev. John Nicholas Stallings, D.D., was an outstanding Baptist divine of this State, and had previously been an able lawyer, teacher, and a very useful man in many ways.

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History of Public Education in Duplin County (Continued)

Prof. Benjamin Franklin Grady, was a well known educator and twice a member of Congress from this State.

Colonel Thomas S. Kenan was a lawyer, legislator, attorney-general of the State, and clerk of the State Supreme Court for many years.

Rev. John Dickson Stanford was a lawyer, politician, and a Presbyterian minister of this County for many years.

Judge Wade Hampton Kornegay was a well-known lawyer of the State of Oklahoma. He was a member of the State Constitutional Convention and served a term as an Associate Justice of the State Supreme Court.

Senator F. M. Simmons, a lawyer, political leader, Congressman, and for many years a United States Senator.

State Senator Alfred D. Ward, a lawyer of great ability, political leader and State Senator. He was a law partner of Senator Simmons.

Judge Oliver H. Allen, lawyer, Solicitor and Superior Court Judge. He was a school mate of Simmons at the old Grove Academy near Kenansville. Prof. Samuel W. Clement was their teacher.

Judge William R. Allen, a lawyer of great ability, Superior Court Judge and later a Justice of the State Supreme Court. He was a pupil of Prof. R. W. Millard at the old Seminary in Kenansville.

Dr. John M. Faison, a practicing physician for many years, politician and a member of the United States Congress. He was a pupil in the Faison Male Academy.

General Samson L. Faison, a military leader of great ability who distinguished himself during the World War.

James O. Carr, a lawyer and political leader, of

Wilmington. United States District Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

Miss Mary Jarman, daughter of Sarah (Davis) and McLendal Jarman of Duplin County, attended the old Hannah Moore Academy. She married Furnifold G. Simmons of Jones County and they were the parents of Senator Simmons. The Simmons family lived in Kenansville during the Civil War when the Senator was a boy of nine and ten years of age. The Senator's maternal grandparents are buried in an old family cemetery near Hebron church. The Simmons home in Kenansville is now owned and occupied by Prof. O. P. Johnson, Superintendent of Duplin Schools.

Miss Margaret (Maggie) Monk, daughter of Ann (Maxwell) and James B. B. Monk, attended the old Grove Academy in Kenansville. She was taught by Dr. James M. Sprunt. She married Dr. Charles Hooks Harris of Cedartown, Georgia, and they were the parents of United States Senator William J. Harris, General Peter Charles Harris, and others equally distinguished. The town of Magnolia was named in honor of Miss Margaret Monk. Dr. Harris was a grandson of Col. Charles Hooks of Duplin County.

Dr. Frank Porter Graham, erstwhile President of the State University and now serving as North Carolina's Junior United States Senator, is a great grandson of Capt. David Sloan, Duplin's first chairman of the Board of School Superintendents.

The Dickson Charity Fund, created by the will of Col. Alexander Dickson in 1813, was intended for the education of poor children before the public school system started. It was later managed by the Board of School Superintendents and the annual interest on the principal sum was distributed to the several school districts. It is still in existence.

Greetings to Duplin County and
"THE DUPLIN STORY"

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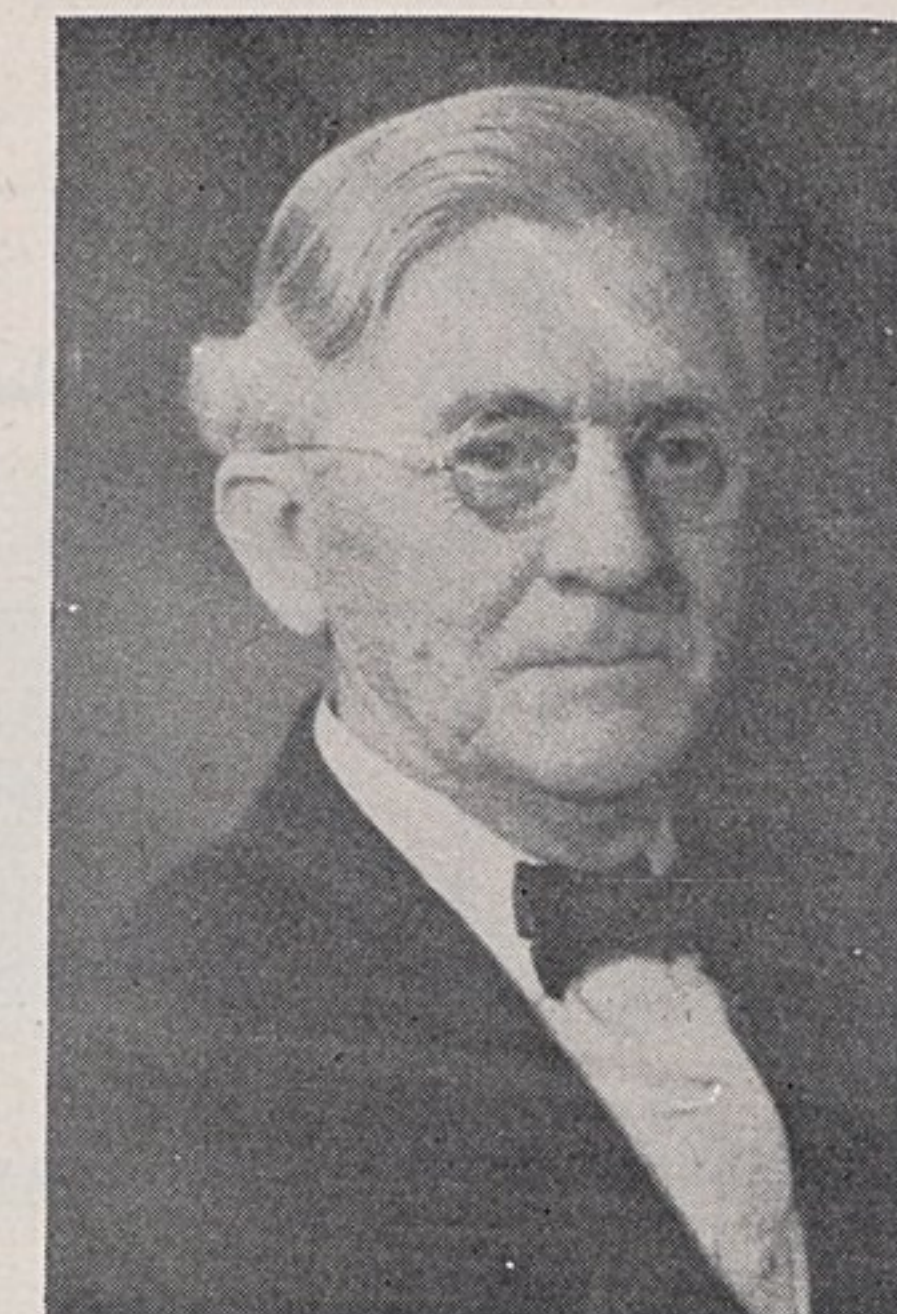
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Son of Duplin
Proprietor

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SELL TOBACCO
in
KINSTON
is



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Assistant to Sam Byrd
in Battle of Rock Fish Scene



H. D. WILLIAMS
Lawyer, Farmer
Donor of "The Duplin Story" Site



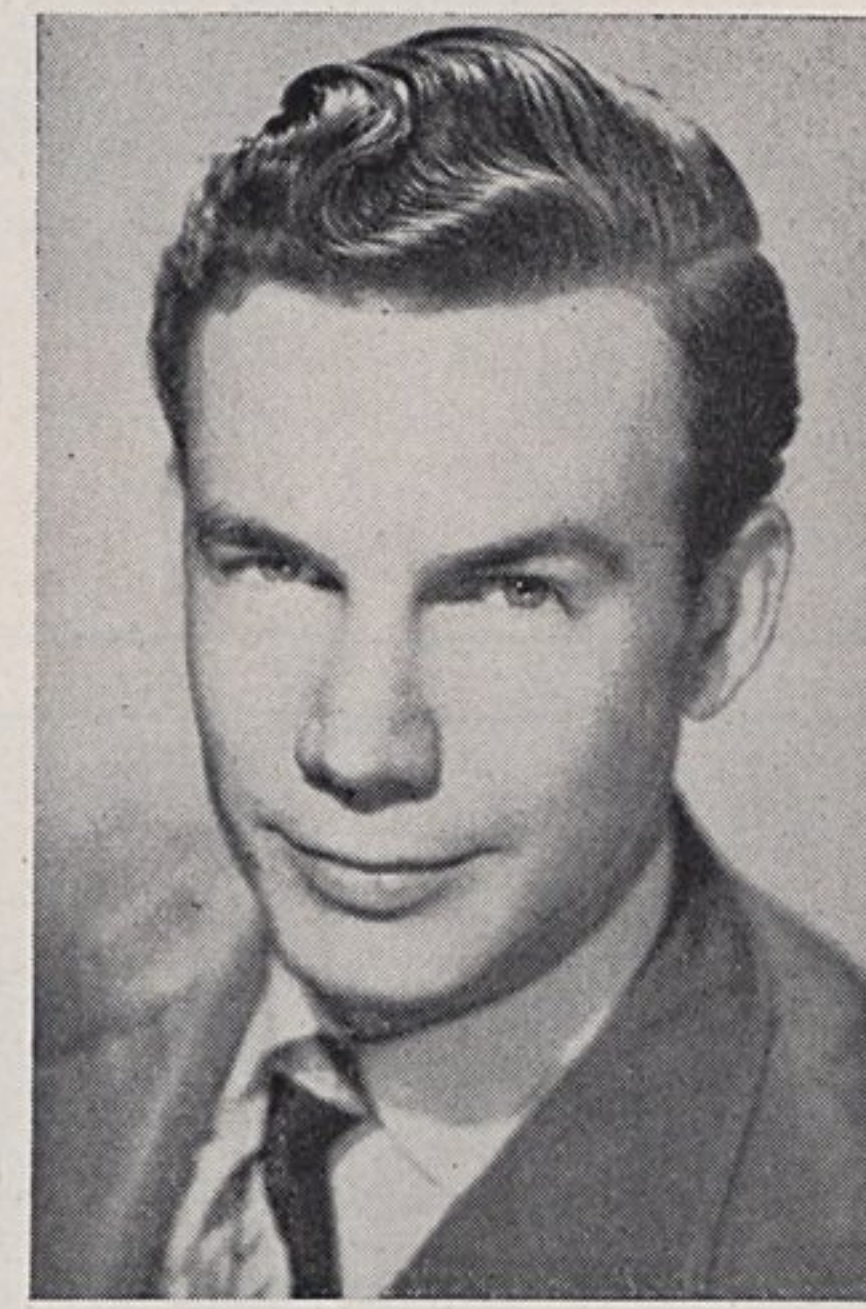
A. M. DAVIS
Stage Director



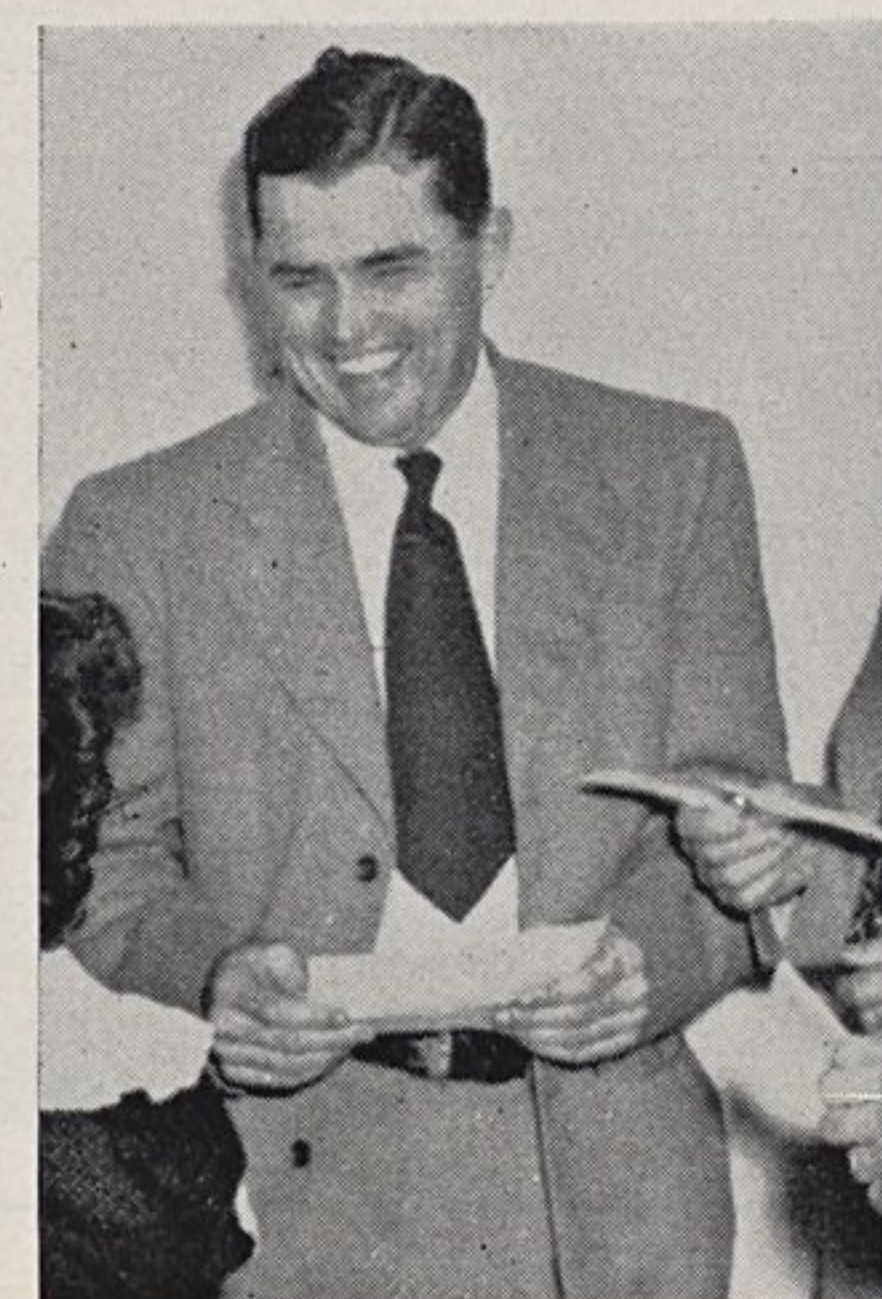
PEARL MCGOWEN
Chairman of Costumes



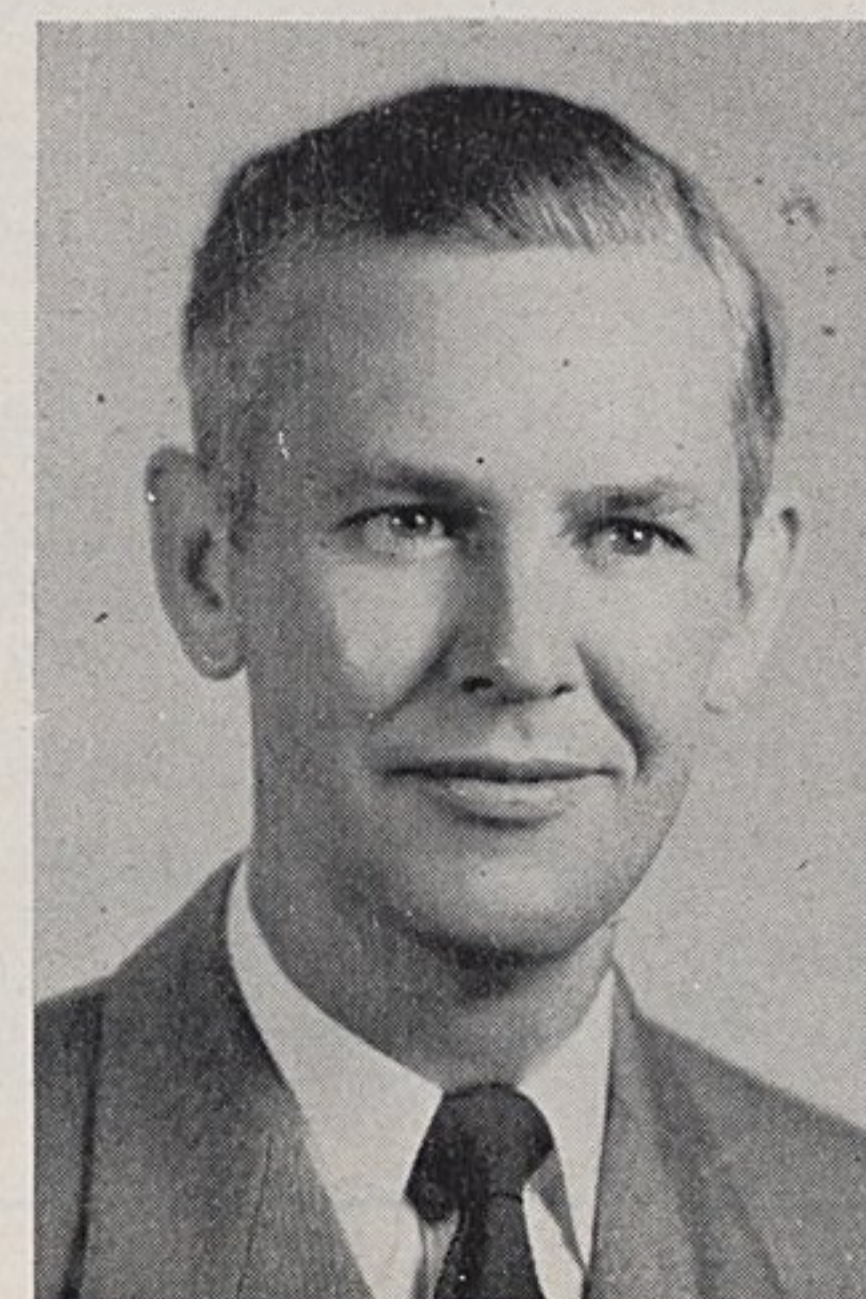
MARGARET WILLIAMS
Production Assistant



WM. "DUSTY" WALKER
Assistant to Mr. Rife



A. C. HOLLAND
Assistant to Stage Manager



Z. W. FRAZZELLE
Principal Kenansville School



GEORGE PENNEY
Grounds Manager

Headquarters

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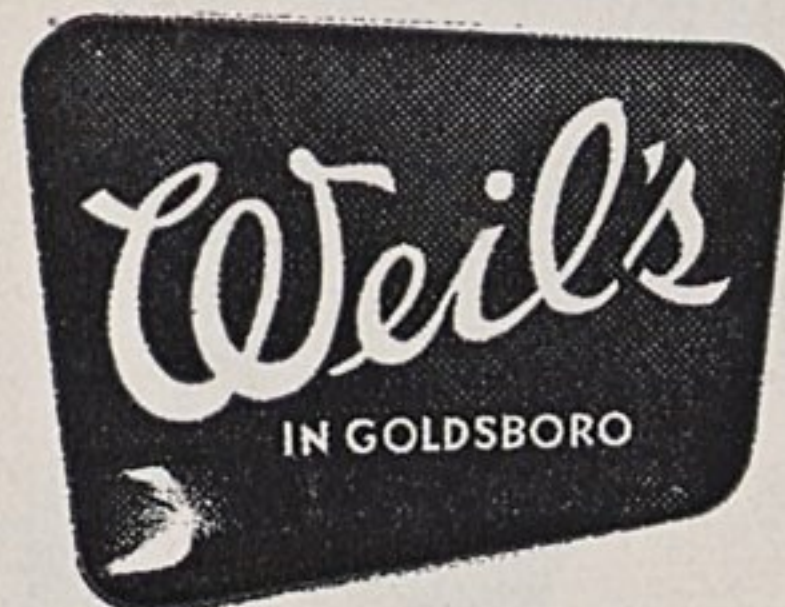
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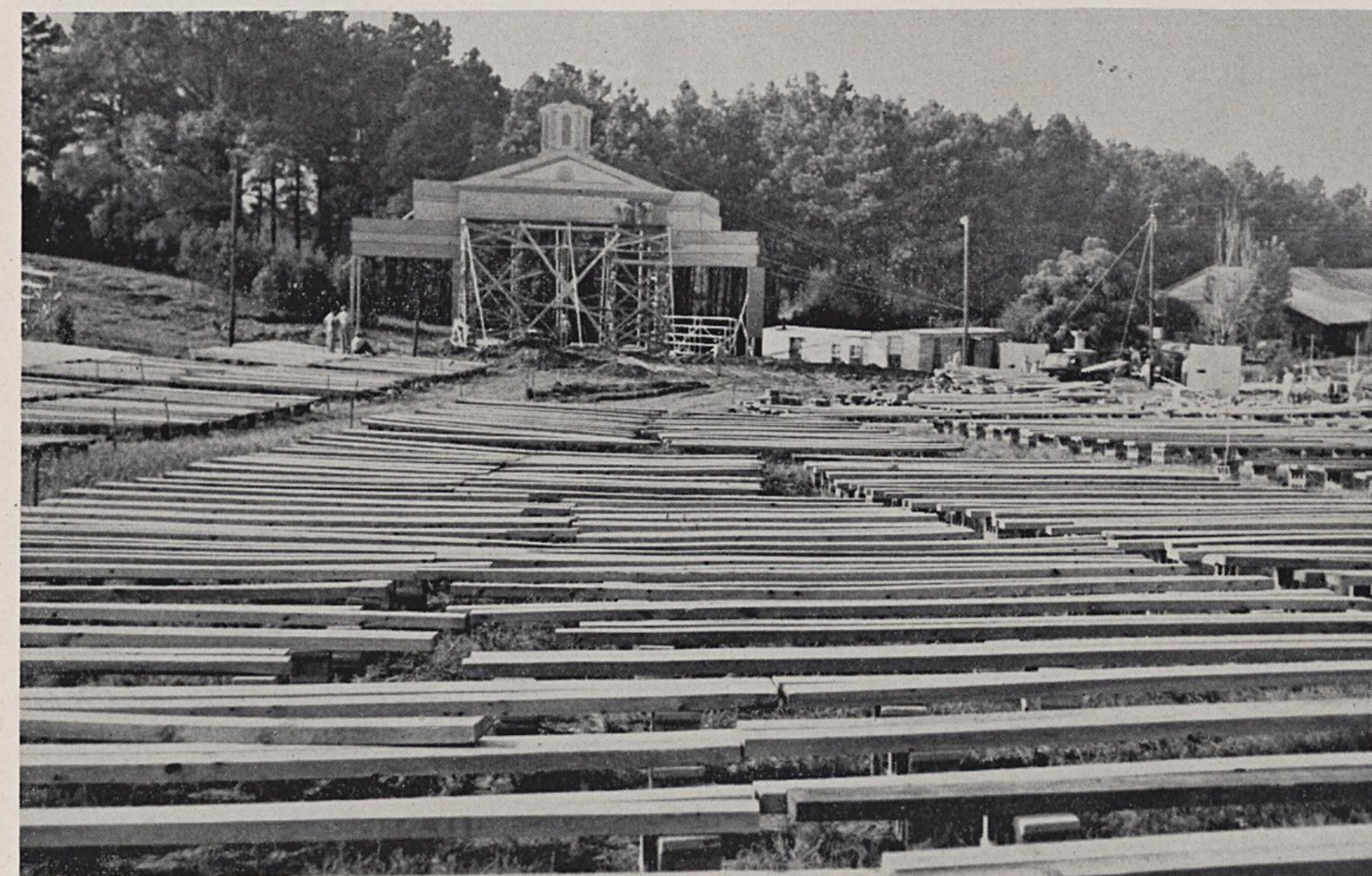
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Soprano



ANNIE MAE KENION
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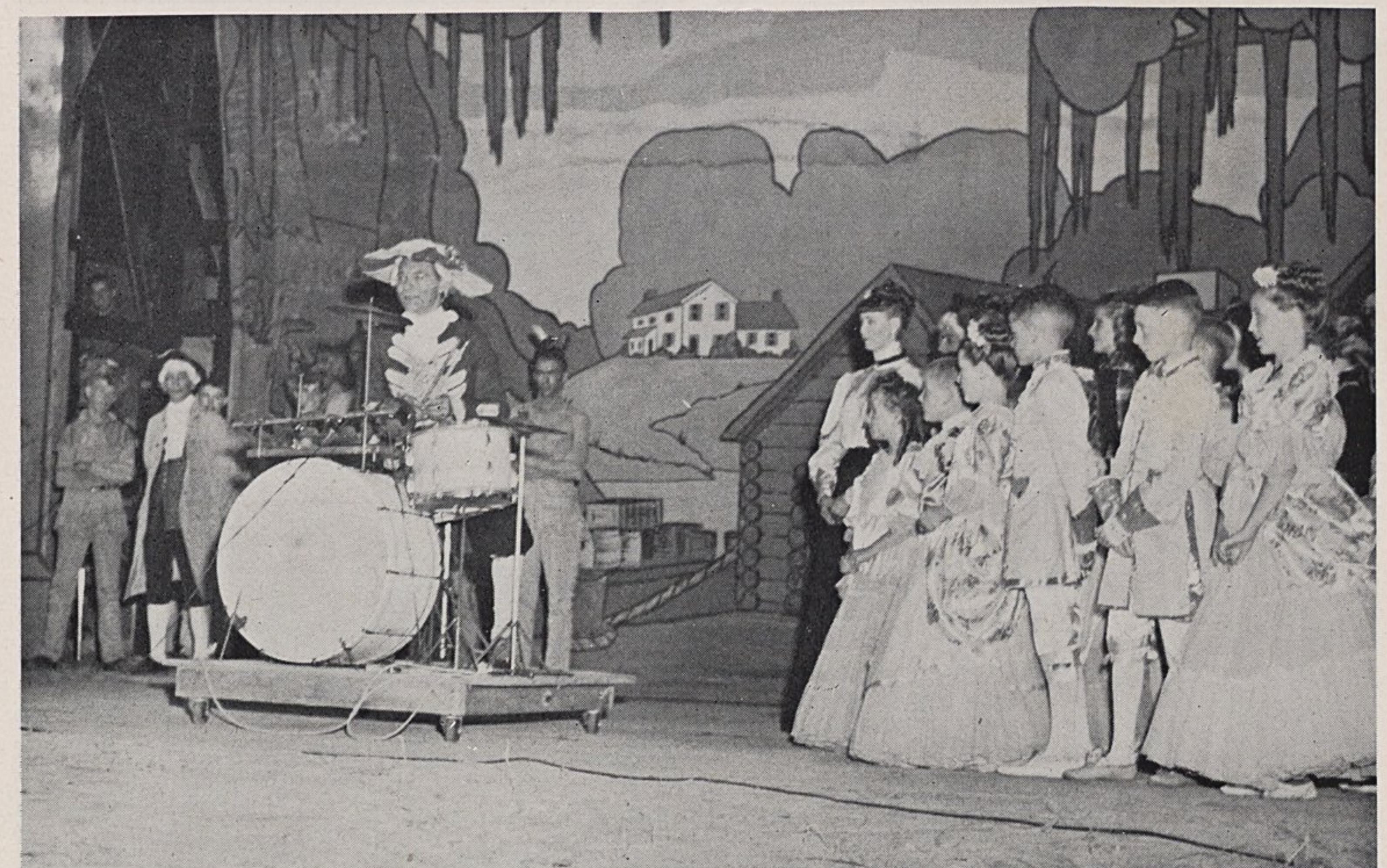
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Magnolia, N. C.

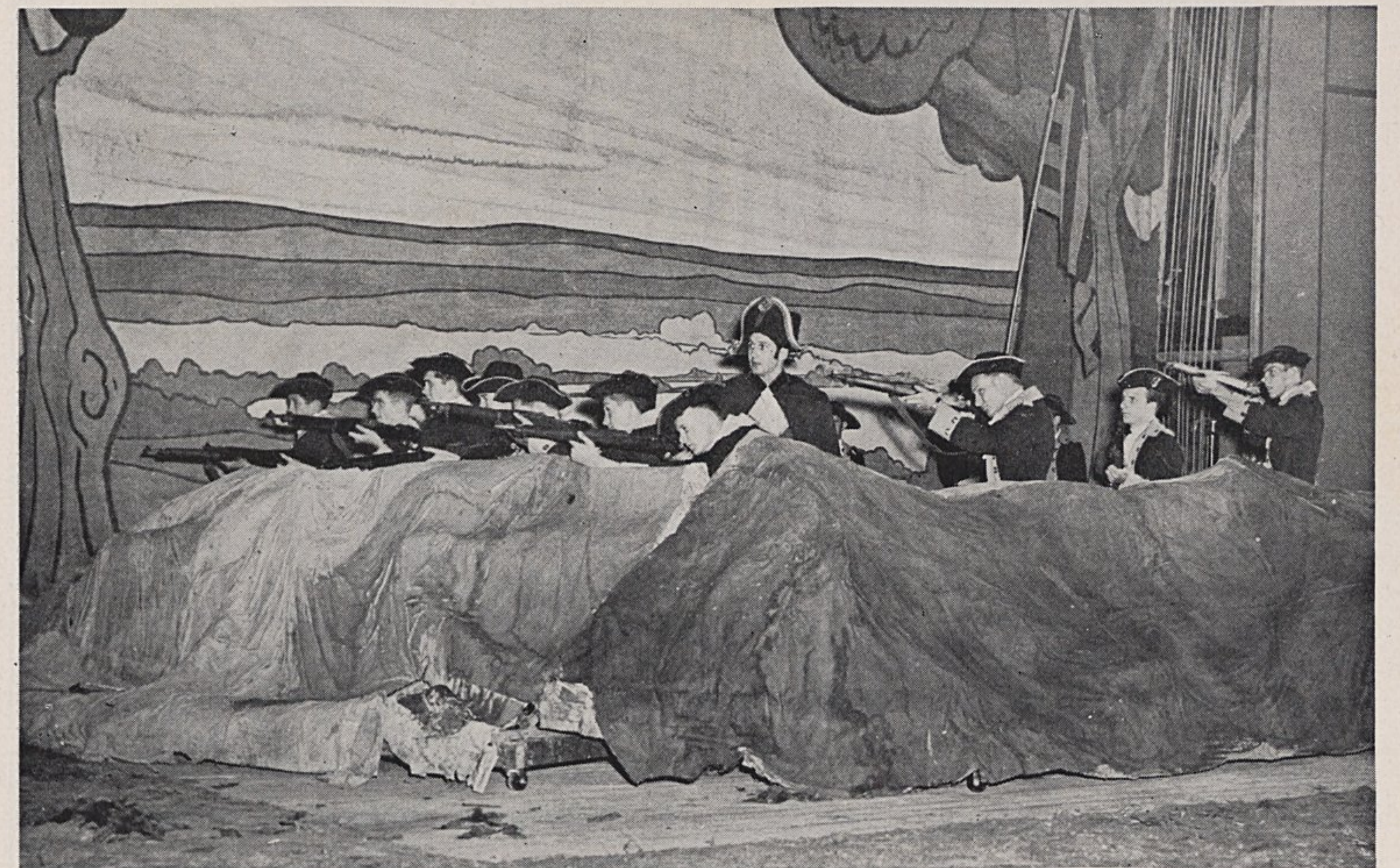
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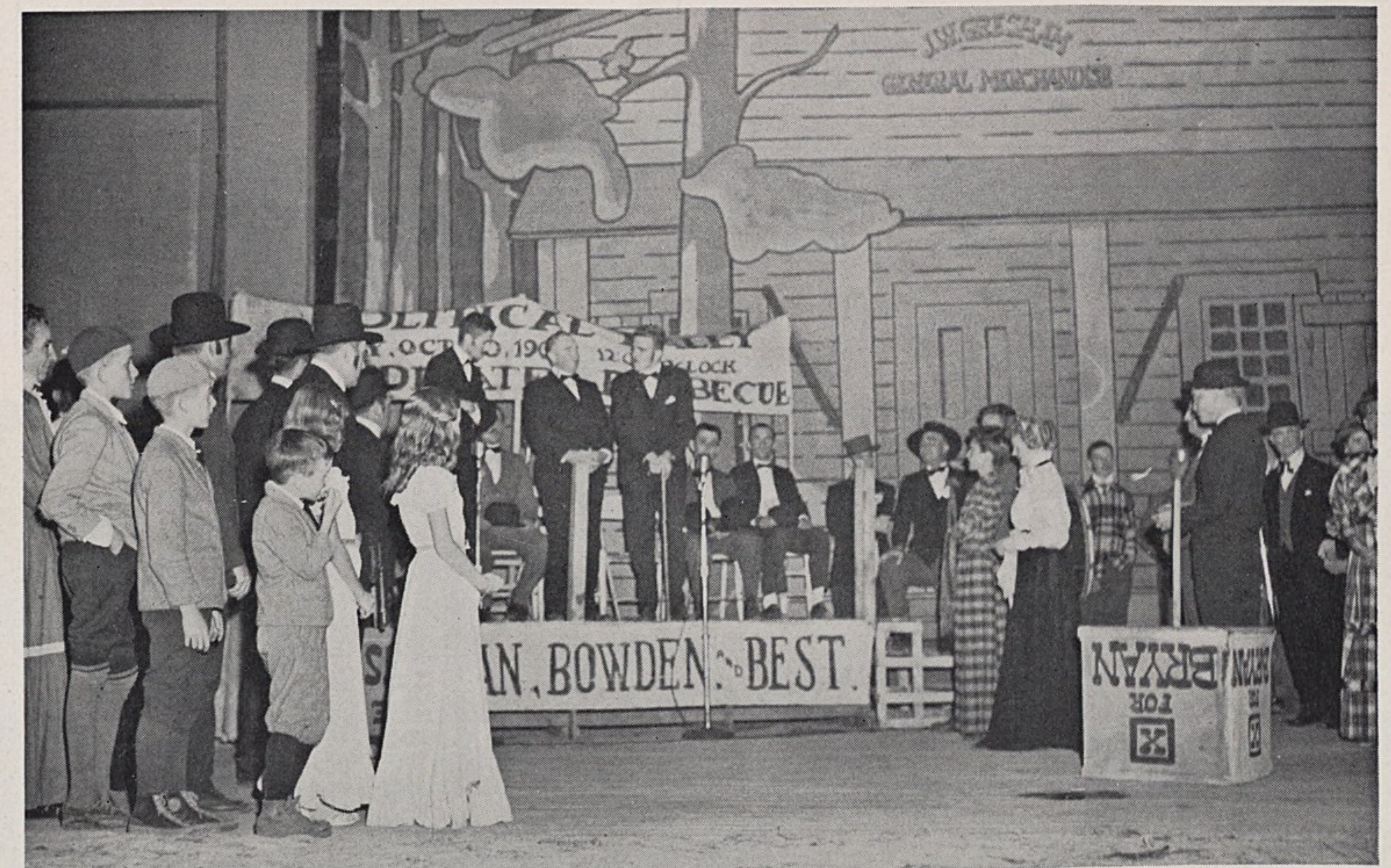
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T. P. Westbrook

Richlands, N. C.



LIBERTY HALL, KENANSVILLE, A JUNE AFTERNOON, 1865



BEULAVILLE POLITICAL RALLY, OCTOBER 30, 1908

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MEMBERS JAMES SPRUNT INSTITUTE SCENE, 1910

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WARSAW RAILROAD STATION, A NIGHT IN MAY, 1917



VICTORY SUNDAY MORNING IN DUPLIN COUNTY, AUGUST 19, 1945

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THE PRESS SAYS:

The News and Observer:

They're telling the story of Duplin County this week-end—a tale of 200 years of bravery, laughter, heartbreak and the little events that go to make up everyday living. They're telling the Duplin saga with a realistic, ear-splitting battle scene, rowdy square dances and sedate minuets, two 100-voice choirs and an ox cart. In the pageant's opening scene, Edith Hinnant Dickerson had stepped out from a crowd of Negro tobacco workers to sing lustily, "You'll shout when it hits you, yes, indeed!" Her song expressed the feeling held by many of the Thursday night spectators after "The Duplin Story" had been told—"Yes, indeed!"

James H. McKoy in the Wilmington Morning Star:

The Duplin Story is no mere pageant, it is a vast production on a tremendous scale—and it is a success! Sam Byrd wrote this story, he directed the production and he superbly played the leading role. But that is not half of the story for he organized the company, the workers, the actors, the musicians into a group that knew no obstacle to hinder effort that could keep this from being one of the most outstanding productions I have ever witnessed. It was a miracle—a miracle in a cornpatch that you must see to believe.

Kinston Daily Free Press:

"The Duplin Story," historical pageant commemorating the 200th anniversary of the founding of Duplin County and which was extended two days to enable more people to see it, is truly a magnificent drama, taken from actual history of Eastern North Carolina and the State as a whole. The closing scene in the Duplin church would be a credit to Hollywood or the legitimate New York stage.

The Mount Olive Tribune:

In the Duplin County section of Heaven there must be a special seat of honor set aside for Sam Byrd and the several hundred persons who make up the cast in "The Duplin Story." Together they presented a spectacle in Kenansville the likes of which it has never been our privilege to witness before.

The Wallace Enterprise:

Pageant is overwhelming success.

The Wilmington Morning Star:

"The Duplin Story" is a sensational success. Sam Byrd's presentation surpasses all expectations as to sincerity of plot, variety of scenes, thrilling drama and excellent music. The acting is superb, thanks to enthusiastic interest and effort of hundreds of Duplin citizens. And the staging, lighting and other effects are as professional as anything Broadway offers.

* * *

U. S. Senator Clyde R. Hoey:

"I think the pageant is a most dramatic presentation of the interesting history of Duplin County for the past two centuries. It presents strikingly the democracy of our day in that it represents all groups and emphasizes the equality of opportunity for all our people. It belongs to the best productions of this character and epitomizes our American traditions."

U. S. Senator Frank P. Graham

"We salute the Duplin County Historical Association, Sam Byrd and his associates and all the people of Duplin County for this superb production, indeed a high credit to our state."

•

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Individuals and firms sponsoring "The Duplin Story" in 1950, by advancing financial assistance for pre-showing expenses:

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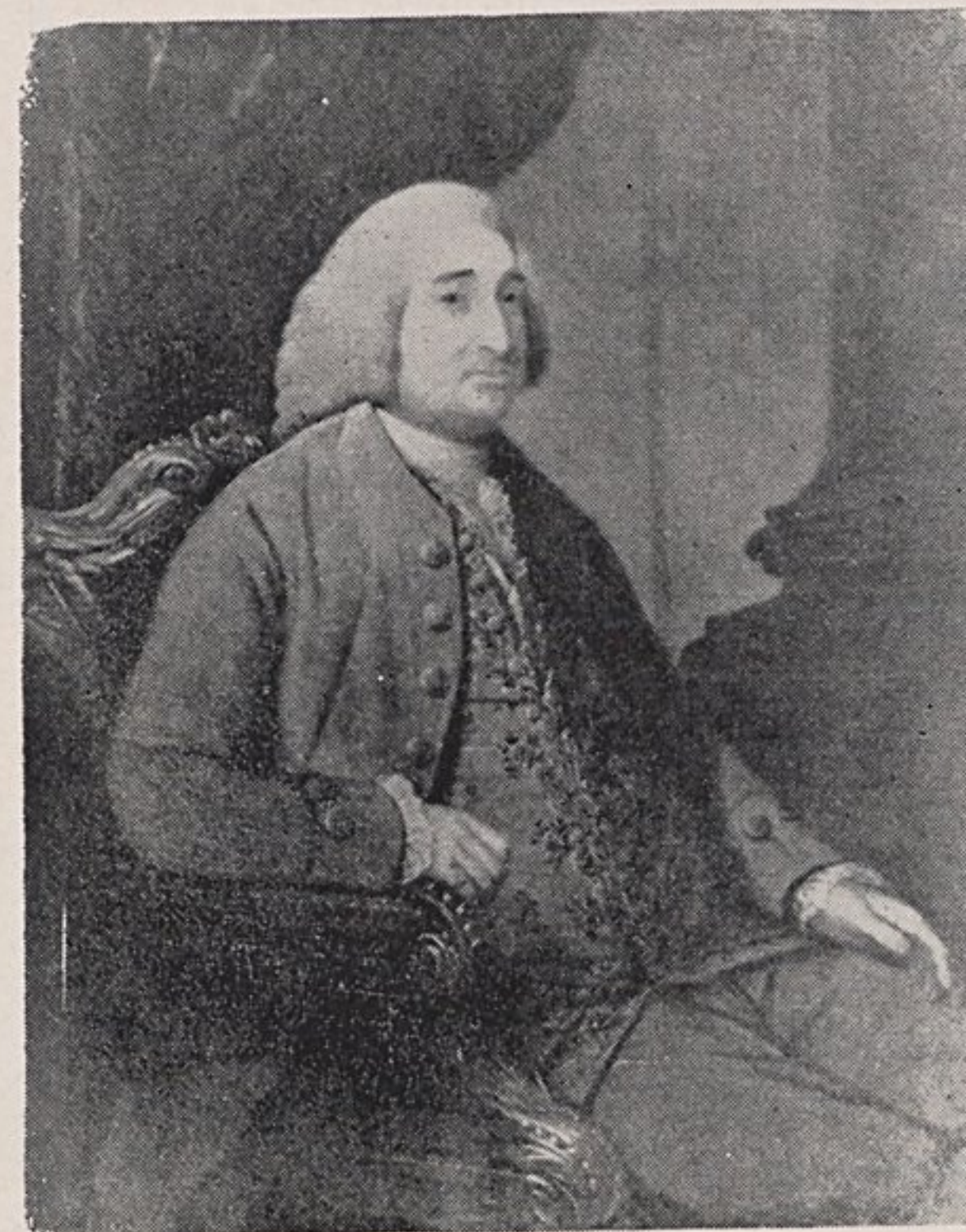
Wallace, N. C.



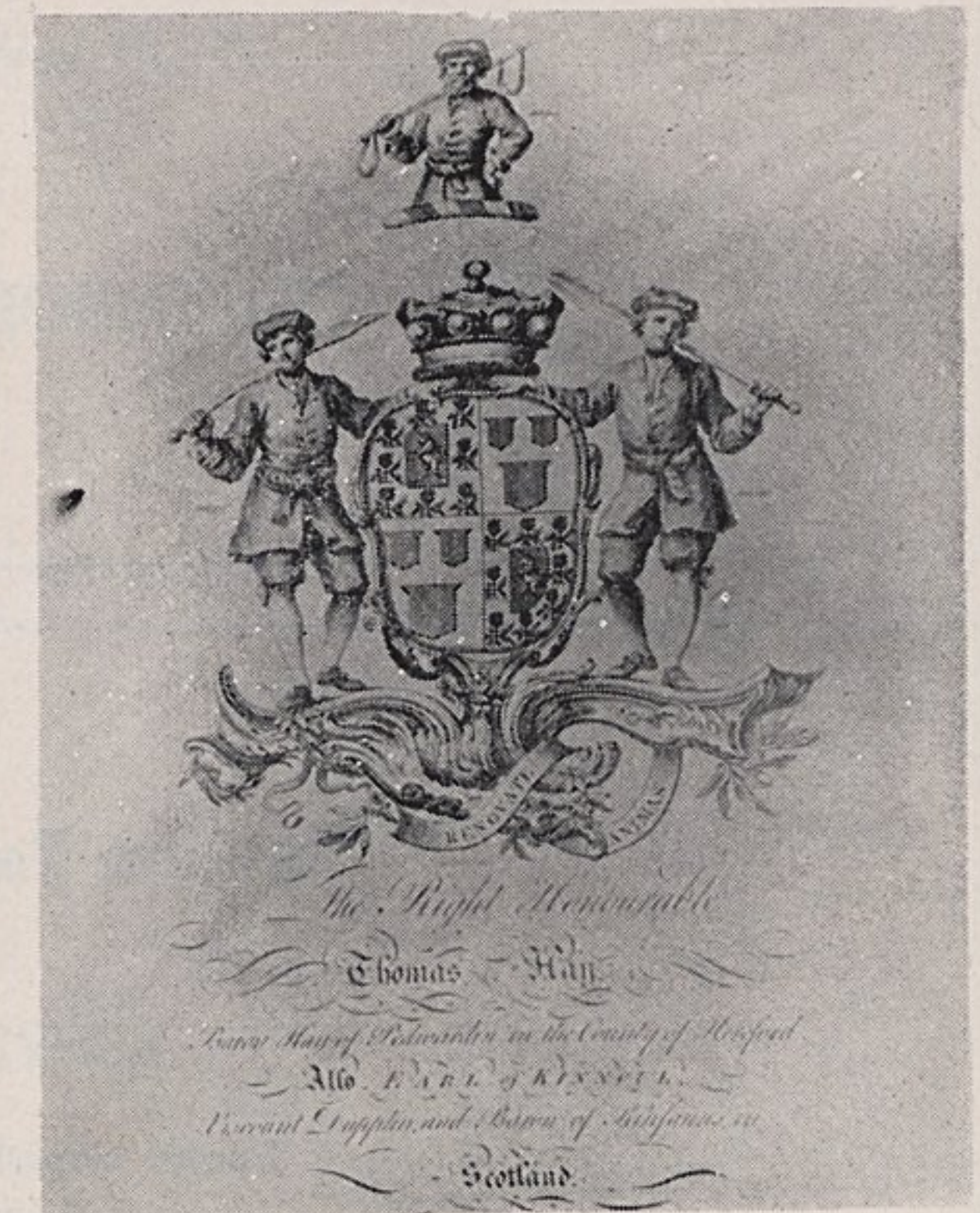
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Historic Lore



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COAT OF ARMS
Thomas Hay
Lord Dupplin

Thomas Hay, Ninth Earl of Kinnoull. Born 1710; died at Dupplin, 1787. Viscount Dupplin and Baron Hay of Kinfauns, Scotland, and Baron Hay of Pedwarden, England. Appointed Paymaster General of His Majesty's Forces, 1755. Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, 1758. Ambassador Extraordinary to the Court of Portugal, 1759, and Elected Chancellor of the University of St. Andrews, 1765. (This information and the photographs furnished by Col. Arthur William H. Hay-Drummond, Cromlix, Dunblane, Perthshire, Scotland, heir to the Fifteenth Earl of Kinnoull.)



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