

In these columns will be found a fair presentation of local and county news of general interest.

THE CHOWAN HERALD

A HOME NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF CHOWAN COUNTY

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Pecan Trees Utilize Much Of Time At Town Council Meet

Argument Develops Regarding Right to Gather Pecans

CONSULT ATTORNEY

Nuts Generally Gathered By Boys For Purpose of Sale

Town Councilmen, at their meeting Friday night, devoted quite a bit of time to consideration of the Town's pecan trees, after Chief of Police J. R. Tanner recommended that the ordinance pertaining to the trees either be amended or abolished altogether.

At present, the ordinance prohibits the climbing or faying of the trees, with provision that part of the fine will go to the person furnishing information that the ordinance has been violated. The police recently made two arrests but the case was not prosecuted by Prosecutor J. N. Pruden on the ground that the ordinance is not legal.

The present status of the trees is that pecans are gathered by almost anybody, in many instances for the purpose of sale, which fact is opposed by many people in front of whose property the trees are located, some of whom sweep up the leaves and even water and fertilize the trees, so they contend that they should be entitled to the pecans.

In such an event, the Councilmen were of the opinion that the pecans should go to the property-holders, so Mayor Leroy Haskett and J. Clarence Leary were instructed to confer with W. D. Pruden, town attorney, to see if an ordinance could be legally passed whereby the pecans would belong to the parties in front of whose property the trees were planted.

Many pecan trees were planted by the Town on Town property something like 20 years ago and since they have borne fruit there has been a conflict of opinion as to who is entitled to the nuts. It's an annual custom of boys to gather as many as possible, and mostly at night, and in some cases these nuts are sold as low as 10 cents per pound, and later sold for from 35 to 50 cents.

The suggestion was made that the property holders lease trees for something like 5 cents a year, so that in event the trees are shaken, the police would have a better chance of prosecuting an offender.

Special Service In Parish House 11:45 On Christmas Eve

Rev. D. C. Crawford Will Read "The Christmas Pilgrims"

A special Christmas Eve program in the Parish House has been announced by the Rev. D. C. Crawford, Jr., pastor of the Presbyterian Church. This service will begin at 11:45 o'clock Friday night, at which a feature will be the reading of "The Christmas Pilgrims," by Mr. Crawford.

Christmas music has been arranged and singing of Christmas carols will also be included on the program.

A cordial invitation is extended to the general public to attend.

Christmas Party At USO Club Tuesday

A delightful affair was held in the USO Club Tuesday night, when a Christmas party was held for service men and women. Music was furnished by the Island Serenaders and C. W. Overman led the singing of Christmas carols.

Over 200 presents were distributed to the service men and women and the affair, held amid profuse Christmas decorations, apparently was very much enjoyed.

Rotary Meeting On Thursday Called Off

Due to the close proximity of Christmas Day, the Edenton Rotary Club has called off its regular meeting Thursday of this week. The usual meeting will be held Thursday of next week at one o'clock in the Parish House, at which time President R. N. Hines is very anxious to have a 100 per cent meeting.



From the times of our forefathers, America has enjoyed a traditional Christmas. It has always been and will always continue to be a festive season of good fellowship and good cheer. It is a time for remembering friends and loved ones, one to give thanks for those blessings which America enjoys.

Although our lives have been affected by circumstances and events within the past months, the spirit of Christmas remains unchanged. From the pleasures of the Yuletide season today we gain strength with which to meet the problems of tomorrow. From the thoughtfulness of those whom we hold dear, we obtain a sense of well being and a desire to create greater achievements.

The American Christmas must remain traditional regardless of conditions and events. It is our obligation to keep alive the glorious customs that have been the predominating factor of the American Christmas for many, many years.

Let us be happy and considerate of others this Christmas so that we may obtain the greatest enjoyment the season offers. This is our Christmas wish for you.

The Chowan Herald

WE WILL CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

By Pauline Smith, District Agent, State College

Celebrating Christmas as usual this year? No, Sir! More Christmas! More sharing, more family planning, more neighborliness, more thought of our men and women in service who serve that some day we may have Christmas in peace—boys fighting, suffering and dying while we wait in comfort, but they want us to carry on, they wish to think of home as they left it. So we will celebrate Christmas.

The Star of Hope rides high and the eyes of helpless millions follow its course. Some things like faith and religion are eternal. So is the Spirit of Christmas. Both adults and children need the help that Christmas celebrations bring to them, ever widening and expanding in its scope of usefulness to others.

Of course, children come first. Phillips Brooks said, "The future of the race marches forward on the feet of little children." The fight for eternal peace is a fight for the child, for the American home. We can make the child happy and at the same time teach him to help make others happier.

Let's start by planning an old-fashioned Christmas. Let's give up the fancy tinsel, expensive gifts, wild parties, and have open fires, filled stockings for every member of the family and for some lonely strangers. There can be plenty of fragrant evergreens and red berries from our own grounds. Let every one, family and guests, have a part in decorating. The children's decorations may not be as well designed as yours, but they should have a place of honor, for theirs is a contribution toward a beautiful Christmas.

A sergeant says that the most pathetic characters at Christmas time are the homeless old ladies who will sit alone in some bleak room, and bent old ladies who will never again see their murdered sons. They are no more pathetic than old men, and not so helpless. Can't we search out some of these December 25th's?

But it is the little fellow with his face pressed against a toyland window—the dirty little girl gazing eagerly at the doll she cannot have, who touch the heart. Oh, yes, we still have them in this curious war time when America is flowing with money. If you don't believe there are children whom Santa Claus will not visit, go down on a side street or a cart road.

Well-to-do American children have too many toys. Can't we teach the child of 1943 to share, not only by repairing toys to be distributed by some organization—but also to be content with simpler pleasures? It is these lonely old shut-ins, the unfortunate children whose hearts should be gladdened on this Birthday of the Christ Child. Community

planning may be the solution.

A church in one town sends a Santa with gaily wrapped gifts for all shut-ins. Another community has a big Christmas tree before a bonfire. Carols are sung, Christmas gifts distributed, and afterwards candy filled cornucopias are handed out to all.

The 4-H Clubs of one county helped the USO center to make merry. They made hundreds of popcorn balls, dressed themselves in red, white and blue paper aprons and caps and peddled their products (free of course) from trays tied around their necks.

Could we revive the old custom of singing carols from house to house? Open house to which strangers are invited should be more common. Buffet service is the perfect way to entertain. Perhaps serve hot spiced grape juice, cider, or Russian tea. Simple refreshments, simple entertainment will help to instill a steadfastness in American life which is fast disappearing.

Last December I knew a group of neighbors who build a barn for a sick neighbor. The women came in after the "Barn Raising" and served a bountiful supper, followed by games. Miss Sallie Hill of the Progressive Farmer, tells of the pooled gift of an organization. Instead of exchanging gifts as usual, the members pooled their resources and paid for the digging of a deep well at a Negro orphanage. Mrs. Effie Vines Gordon, home agent of Nash County, reports that the home demonstration club women of Nash County have asked for the privilege of furnishing three hundred and twenty Christmas boxes to soldier patients in nearby camps.

Regardless of other plans made, let's endeavor to preserve the true spirit of Christmas. See that children know Christmas carols and legends which should be perpetuated. Let's take time to wrap our gifts, no matter how simple and make a secret of them.

Take time to write letters to old friends and to add the tiny decoration of a Red Cross Seal. Let's give the most needed gifts as it has been said: "Let us share the warmth the harmony and the beauty of this Christmas pledge ourselves to do the one best thing we can to assure the protection and help of service men everywhere; to buy war bonds regularly and continually."

Now it is up to you and to me who are well and comfortable to keep our chins up and to help others who are inclined to worry. It is simple if we could only get it over; to be happy a person must forget himself and remember others. In an excellent article on How to be Happy This Christmas, Margaret (Continued on Page Eight)

Herald Gets Merit Of Award For Effort In Pulpwood Drive

Campaign Will Continue Throughout Next Year

STILL NEEDED

Vital War Material as Long as Present Conflict Lasts

The Herald, this week, received an Award of Merit as a token of appreciation from the Newspaper Pulpwood Committee of the American Newspaper Publishers Association. The award was made by Walter M. Dear, chairman of the committee, who said, "while we cannot yet estimate the results of this newspaper campaign in terms of pulpwood production, I believe we can feel justly proud of our record. Your newspaper, with the support of your local pulpwood committee and your community, has performed a patriotic and vital service for our country and the men who are fighting for its preservation."

"The War Production Board, at whose request we conducted the 1943 campaign, shortly will announce the 1944 goals based on estimated military and essential civilian requirements. Consequently, I am asking for your continued support of the Victory Pulpwood Campaign in 1944 through the influential columns of your newspaper and the local pulpwood committees that you have formed."

Pulpwood is still a vital material, made scarce by the manpower shortage, and fighting forces will need it so long as the war lasts and as long as there is an American soldier on foreign soil.

Paul Olsson Paints Picture At Greensboro

Edenton friends of Paul Olsson will be interested to know that he has just completed a life-size picture of Christ in the Garden at the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro, where he is now making his home. An item in a Masonic paper follows: "Mr. Paul Olsson, one of our new guests, has just painted a beautiful life-size picture of Christ in the Garden in the chapel. All those who have seen it marvel at the fine work our 'little boy' has done. You should come over and see it for yourself."

Christmas Celebration On Court House Green Sunday Afternoon At 6:30 O'clock

Extra Holiday

Practically all of Edenton's stores and business houses will be closed Monday of next week, thereby affording merchants and their employees a three-day holiday over Christmas.

Filling stations, however, will remain closed Saturday and Sunday, but will be open for business as usual Monday.

All stores are now open nights and will remain open until Christmas Eve for the benefit of shoppers.

Lions Club Entertains At Christmas Party In Honor Of Wives

Unique Affair Held In Club Room Monday Night

SPECIAL MUSIC

Women's Group Presents Check to Purchase Clock

Edenton's Lions, on Monday night, enjoyed one of the most delightful affairs during the club's existence when members of the club entertained their wives at a Christmas party. Fifty-five were on hand to enjoy the occasion which was held in the Lions Club room.

Christmas music featured the program, a number of familiar carols being sung by a group composed of J. R. Tanner, Oscar Duncan, J. Clarence Leary, West Leary, Lieutenant O'Desky and J. A. Curran, with Earl Harrell at the piano. "Silent Night" was also sung by a quartet composed of J. Clarence Leary, W. E. Malone, Oscar Duncan and Earl Harrell. Another delightful number was a parody upon "Pistol Packin' Mama," composed by Chief of Police J. R. Tanner.

The club presented a gift to the couple being married the longest time, which went to Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Holland. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Floars received a gift for being the youngest married couple.

The hall was very beautiful with Christmas decorations and a tree also added to the Christmas spirit. Sidney Campen acted as Santa Claus and presented gifts to each of the ladies present.

Mrs. W. W. Byrum, chairman of the women's organization, presented a check for \$25 to President Oscar Duncan as a gift from her group, and in presenting it, said, "It is given in the hope that it will be invested in a clock so that members will be able to arrive at their regular meetings on time."

Next Monday night's meeting of the club was called off due to the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. Eleanor Sawyer Given Purple Heart In Honor Of Husband

Foster L. Sawyer Lost Life When Carrier Wasp Was Sunk

Mrs. Eleanor Sawyer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Sawyer and formerly a resident of Edenton but now living in Norfolk, Va., has recently received from the Navy Department the Purple Heart decoration in honor of her husband, Foster L. Sawyer.

Mr. Sawyer lost his life in October, 1942, when the airplane carrier Wasp was sunk by the Japanese. He was a member of Unanimity Lodge, No. 7, A. F. & A. M., and though not in Edenton much of his time, he won a host of friends during the brief time he was here.

Time Change From Afternoon of Christmas Day

CAROL SINGING

Community Affair Will Center About Beautiful Tree

At a meeting held Monday afternoon in the USO Club, arrangements were completed for the community Christmas program to be held on the Court House Green. This program was originally scheduled to be held late Christmas afternoon, but the time was changed to Sunday evening at 6:30 o'clock. The change was made due to a Christmas dance planned at the U. S. Marine Corps Air Station, which will attract many of the service men and women. By the change, it is hoped that many of the young men and women in Edenton will be able to attend and take part.

A beautiful cedar tree has been placed on the Green between the Confederate monument and King Street, the tree being contributed by W. C. Bunch, superintendent of the U. S. Fish Hatchery, and was put in place Monday by the Edenton Street Department employees. It will be decorated by employees of the Electric Light and Water Department, under the supervision of R. N. Hines, superintendent.

The program will center around the tree and is calculated to last about 40 minutes so that it will not conflict with any church service. It will be composed almost entirely of group singing of Christmas carols, led by C. W. Overman, and instrumental music by the Edenton High School Band, under the direction of R. L. Martin. He was originally planned to have a brief address by Chaplain Henry Carter, but he will not be here to participate. Another proposed feature was a huge number by Miss Virginia Clawson, a member of the Marine Women's Reserve, but she, too, will not be here.

The program, as arranged Monday, will be as follows, unless it is necessary to make last-minute changes.

- Group singing of "Silent Night," Scripture and invocation by the Rev. H. Fred Barnett, pastor of the Methodist Church.
- Group singing of "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing."
- Band number.
- Group singing of "White Christmas."
- Group singing of "O Little Town of Bethlehem."
- Band number.
- Group singing of "Joy to the World."
- Group singing of "Star Spangled Banner."

Outstanding Pictures Holiday Attractions At Taylor Theatre

Taylor Theatre is featuring several outstanding pictures to add to the Christmas holiday enjoyment, which begins today (Thursday) with "Corregidor." On Friday, the theatre will run shows continuously from 1:30 to 11 p. m., when Roy Rogers is featured in "Hands Across the Border."

On Christmas Day, the theatre will open at 3:15 and run continuous shows until 11 p. m., when a non-stop marathon of fun includes Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy in "Dancing Masters." Sunday's feature will be "So's Your Uncle," starring Billie Burke and Donald Woods. Manager Jimmy Earnhardt has booked "Gualalecan Diary" for next Monday and Tuesday, which is a picture of bad-fighting Marines in America's first taste of victory in the present war.

County Offices Close For 3-Day Holiday

All Chowan County offices will be closed next Monday in order for employees to enjoy an extra Christmas holiday. Any important business, therefore, should be transacted before Friday, when the offices will close for three days, Saturday, Sunday and Monday.