

STATE OF WAR EXISTS, SAYS SENATE.

News reached here yesterday morning that Senate had passed a resolution, declaring a state of war existing between the United States and the German Empire, by a vote of 82 to 6. Preparations for aggressive warfare are being made rapidly. Appropriation of almost half-billion dollars voted, and army of half-million will be speedily raised. Rail facilities at call of government.

BEACON FLASHES.

Good Friday.

Hon. H. S. Ward of Washington, was in town Sunday.

Atty. Williford Whitley of Columbia was here this week.

Mr. S. M. Combs of Columbia, was among our visitors Tuesday.

Atty. J. D. Paul of Washington, was here on business Monday.

Atty. Z. V. Norman made a professional trip to Edenton this week.

Mrs. W. T. Spruill and Mr. A. G. Hart of Roper, were in town Monday.

Col. W. F. Beasley of Baltimore, was in town a few days recently.

Ex-Sheriff J. T. McAllister and Mrs. McAllister were in town Tuesday.

The county commissioners and the board of education were in session Monday.

Messrs. C. T. White and S. B. Davenport of Skippersville, were in town on business Monday.

Miss Vonnie Ambrose of near Roper, is visiting Miss Gladys Norman, on Jefferson Street.

Misses Clara and Ora Allen of Jamesville, have been spending a few days with Mrs. G. H. Harrison.

Hon. Jno. H. Darden of Scotland Neck, has been here visiting his brother, Mr. D. G. Darden, near town.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Swain and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Davenport of Mackeys, were in town shopping Wednesday.

FOR RENT—Bryan Cottage. For information apply to J. S. Chesson, or O. M. Chesson, Plymouth.

Messrs. A. G. and Harry Walker and Mrs. J. L. Phelps of Creswell were visitors to our town on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams of Norfolk are visiting Mrs. Williams' parents, Dr. and Mrs. T. B. Wolfe on E. Main Street.

Miss Eula Spruill of near Roper spent last Friday and Saturday here as the guest of her uncle, Mayor H. C. Spruill.

Misses Millie and Jessie Spruill of Roper, were in town Saturday and Sunday last as guests of their sister, Mr. L. L. Owens.

Sheriff J. E. Reynolds, Dr. C. A. Flowers and Messrs. S. M. Combs and E. S. White of Columbia were in our town this week.

Mr. L. L. Johnston of Wake Forest, will preach at the Baptist Church on Easter Sunday. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Mr. A. B. Litchfield, wife and children of Swan Quarter have been guests of Mrs. Litchfield's sister, Mrs. Clarence Latham, this week.

Messrs. W. B. Watts, T. W. Snel, L. W. Gurkin and C. A. Burkman went to Creswell Tuesday in the interest of the new bank being established there.

Rev. J. H. Abernathy, Sheriff W. J. Starr and Messrs. D. E. Woodley, J. W. Starr, Wm. Wilev, C. B., and A. L. Holmes and E. F. Swain of Creswell were in the city Monday.

Of course it is impossible for us to know where all the thousands came from on Commencement Day, but we do know we had visitors from Currituck, Perquimans, Chowan, Tyrrell, Hyde, Beaufort, Bertie, Martin, Halifax, Pitt, Wayne, Wake and Edgecombe counties.

The County Commencement A Great Success.

Attendance Twice as Large as Was Expected—Fully a Half Larger Than That of Last Year. Visitors From all Parts of This Section of State Were Here to Witness Great Educational Demonstration. Two Brass Bands Furnish Music for Occasion, and Program Carried Out in Great Style.

MUCH CREDIT TO SUPT. DARDEN

With the very best of weather conditions and no difficulties whatever, the second-annual County Commencement of Washington County goes down in history as the greatest event ever held in this section of the state.

Plymouth began to fill with visitors at a very early hour, and even before the arrival of the special train of ten cars of school children the streets were swarming with people. The train was something like an hour and a half late, consequently the program was held up, but despite this every number was carried out in a very elaborate manner, and nothing was left undone that could possibly add to the attractions of the occasion. All during the forenoon, prior to the great parade, the two bands, the Fourth Regimental band of Virginia, and the Bailey Concert Band of Rocky Mount, rendered inspiring music at frequent intervals, thereby keeping enthusiasm at white heat.

The 1916 Commencement was a splendid success, but the one this year so far overshadowed it that there is no comparison whatever. The crowd attending is estimated as being fully a half larger than that of last year, and the accomplishments of all departments show a gratifying growth. There is no doubt but that now all the people of our county see the splendid results of such events, and will hereafter give more time and more work in preparing for the annual occasion and will co-operate with the movement in a most generous manner.

Souvenirs were given by The Washington County Bank, W. R. Hampton, Plymouth Garage and Motor Co., The Bank of Plymouth and Clyde Cahoon. Every school child in the county who attended, received a souvenir from the above-named concerns. Tiny American flags were given by Mr. Clyde Cahoon, and the pride in which they were displayed by the children evinced the fact that they fully understood just what the colors on them signified.

Immediately upon arrival of the train the parade began to form on the vacant lot on the corner of Water and Adams streets, and from there wended its way throughout the town, one grand and inspiring spectacle. The Regimental Band, playing stirring military marches, took the lead, and was followed by the schools of the county. Every generation was represented in the parade; silver-haired men, arrayed in the colors of the schools of their respective school districts, marched at the head of the happy, gleeful children with as much fervor as if they themselves were units of the schools, and took as much pride in the showing of their schools as did the teachers and children. The Baily Concert Band, playing the latest patriotic marches, followed the schools.

The parade terminated at the place it began, and as soon as the last school to assemble on the lot had arrived, they all sang "AMERICA" in unison with a rhythmical vehemency that caused the blood of patriotism to course through the veins as streaks of fire. Rev. B. T. Hurley, of the Methodist Church, offered a most eloquent prayer. The Welcome Address was delivered by Prof. Jas. W. Norman, in the absence of Hon. Van. B. Martin, who was called out of town on important business. This address was responded to most ably by Supt. Jno. W. Darden. The second-annual Commencement address was delivered by Hon. F. C. Harding, of Greenville. Several times during the course of the Senator's remarks, outbursts of applause would interrupt him. This address was a most educational one, as it dealt chiefly with the remarkable progress of education in North Carolina. Diplomas were then presented to graduates of the seventh grade by Atty. Zeb. Vance Norman. The Commercial Club and Business Men's Association, with the assistance of the people of Plymouth Township, served dinner in the spacious warehouse of W. H. Hampton & Son. Despite the tremendous crowd there was plenty and plenty for all, and then enough left to feed a small army of hungry people. Dinner passed off in a most systematic manner and without any confusion. Dinner concluded, the different contests were held. The High School Declamation Contest was held in the Methodist Church by Prof. Jas. W. Norman; the Grammar School Declamation Contest was conducted in the Christian Church by Supt. Jno. W. Darden; the Spelling-Bee Contest was directed in the Court House auditorium by Prof. E. T. Campbell. These contests were conducted in a most pleasing manner. At four o'clock the base ball teams of Roper and Plymouth played a very exciting game at Bridgley's Park. Roper won by a very neat margin. The following prizes were distributed: For best Short Story a velvet rug was given to Miss Hope Hardison of Plymouth School, by M. G. Darden; For best Essay a gold medal was given to Miss Elizabeth Phelps of Creswell School, by the Roanoke Beacon; For the best Biographical Sketch of Hon. Thos. W. Blount a pair of Crossett shoes were given to Miss Florine Davenport of Roper School, by Mr. W. R. Hampton; For the best Essay on Thrift a gold medal was given to Miss Pearl Hopkins of Creswell School, by National Education Association; For the best paper on The Advantages of Washington County to Home-seekers a gold medal was given to Miss Mary Freeman of Swain School, by the Washington County Bank; For the best paper on Agriculture a gold medal was given to Roy Reddick of Mackeys School, by Hon. W. S. Davenport; To the winner of the Declamation Contest was given a gold-handle umbrella to Miss Carrie Mae Holmes of Creswell School, by Mr. Abe Adler;

To the school making the best showing in the parade was given \$5.00 in gold to Creswell School, by the Insurance and Realty Co.;

To the winner of the Grammar School Declamation Contest, was given a \$5.00 fountain pen to Miss Mary Freeman of Swain School, by Mr. Clyde Cahoon;

To the winner of the Spelling-Bee Contest was given a fountain pen to Miss Calke Barnes of Cherry School, by Mr. P. E. Davenport;

For the best Manual Training Exhibit was given a kodak to Creswell School, by Mr. Thos. L. Smith;

For the best Domestic Science Exhibit was given a pair of shoes to Plymouth School, by Ayers & Weede;

For the best daily Class-Room Exhibit was given a traveling bag to Monticello School, by Mr. A. L. Owens;

For the largest attendance in Parade was given \$2.50 to Monticello School, by Mr. Geo. W. Waters;

To the pupil making 100 per cent. on Gradation and Attendance was given a fountain pen to Raymond Davenport of Cherry School, by Mr. O. R. Leggett.

SUPT. JNO. W. DARDEN

To the teachers of course is due a great amount of credit for the splendid success of the Commencement, but of Supt. Jno. W. Darden too much can't be said. He has labored for this affair under numerous and trying difficulties, and where many would have given up in despair and disgust, Supt. Darden redoubled his energy and went about with the preparations with a determination that could mean nothing but success. The result of his efforts was manifest on the day of the event, and the esteem in which he is held throughout the county by the teachers of the schools, was made apparent on that day when he was presented a token of their regard in the presence of a multitude of admiring spectators. Supt. Darden states that next year he hopes to see even a better demonstration of the schools than was made last Friday.

Glad to see Rev. T. T. Singleton of Edenton in town for the past week. Mr. Singleton with his wife and children have been visiting his father, Mr. J. E. Singleton, near Roper.

The first County Commencement of the colored schools of this county was held here Wednesday. Due to the lack of space we are compelled to omit an account of same in this issue. We will give write-up next week, however.

Messrs. C. D. Loane, Jr., W. J. Jackson, Jr., Garrol Coggins and John Burt, who have been on the Mexican Border for the past few months as members of the 2nd N. C. Infantry, have been in town visiting their people for several days.

"The Old New Hampshire Home" a melodrama in three acts will be presented by local talent, at the Majestic Theatre, Tuesday night April 10. for the Parsonage Aid Society of the Methodist Church. This play is being directed by Mesdames T. J. Gaylord and C. M. Owens.

By a unanimous vote Dr. J. C. Coggins has been elected to fill the pulpit of the Christian Church for the first and fourth Sundays of each month. He goes to Old Ford next Sunday. This is one of the largest churches in the Eastern District, and is situated near Washington. Dr. Coggins has been located in Plymouth for the past several years, and has made numerous friends by his kind and courteous manners. Recently he took up the study of law, has passed the board of examinations, and has opened a law office in Plymouth.

Road Commissioners.

The newly appointed Board of Road Commissioners for Washington County, viz: H. C. Spruill, W. A. Swain and B. F. Spruill, qualified on Monday and organized by electing Mr. H. C. Spruill

Chairman.

Services at M. E. Church.

There will be no special Easter services at the Methodist Church Sunday, but Rev. H. E. Spence, Field Secretary of the State M. E. Sunday School Board, will be here and will preach at the morning hour, and will hold a Sunday School Institute at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

Presiding Elder, G. T. Adams will preach at 8:30 p. m. All are cordially invited to attend these services.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE SALE

By virtue of a power vested in me in a certain mortgage executed by S. P. Woodley Feb. 19 1914 to me, the undersigned, I will expose to public sale at the Court House door in Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, at 12 o'clock noon on Monday, March, 26, 1917, to the highest bidder for cash the following described personal and real property:

Two pieces or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Washington and state of North Carolina and known and designated First Tract, the Dover Tract of land containing 200 acres more or less and bounded as follows: Beginning at a pine, Martha A. Phelps northwest corner and the northeast corner

of the Long Ridge tract, thence running south 50 degrees east 220 poles along Martha A. and W. T. Phelps' west line to a gum on Scuppernon River, W. T. Phelps' southwest corner, thence south 71 degrees west 160 poles to a gum, thence north 50 degrees west 180 poles to the E. T. Phelps northwest corner, thence north 64 degrees 164 poles to the first station;

Second tract the 1-6 undivided interest in the Four Thousand Acre Tract described in a deed from W. J. Hardison and W. J. Starr, Administrators of the late J. J. Woodley to S. P. Woodley. Also six mules described in a chattel mortgage from said S. P. Woodley to W. T. Phelps dated the 20th day of May, 1913.

The mortgage empowering me to sell the above property is recorded in Book 59 page 492 in the office of Register of Deeds of Washington County, North Carolina.

This 22 day Feb. 1915. W. T. PHELPS, Mortgagee.

Zeb. Vance Norman, Atty. 4t-3

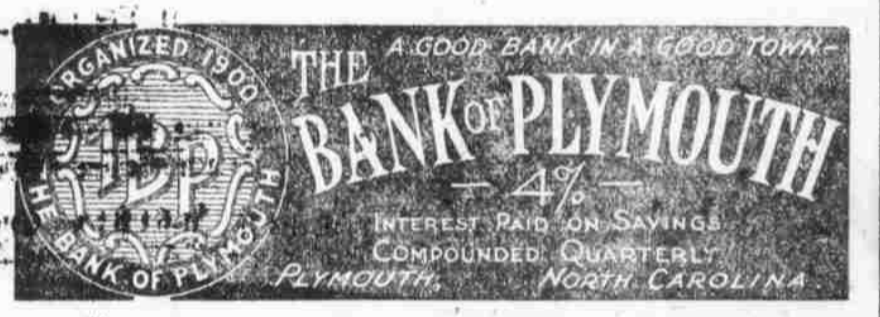
DR. J. C. COGGINS, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Plymouth, N. C.

FOR SALE—HOUSE AND LOT on suburbs of Plymouth. Terms Cash; price reasonable. For information see or write E. S. Clifton, City.

Subscribe to the BEACON.



Some banks solicit only large accounts. This bank is equally the Bank of the laboring man, the mechanic, the business man, the house-wife, the child or the man of leisure. All accounts, large or small, will be given the same treatment. We are a bank for the people and extend to you a Welcome.



If you died to-day would you leave your wife penniless? "HOW DID HE LEAVE HER?" YOU HEAR THIS FREQUENTLY ASKED. SOMETIMES SHE HAS LITTLE CHILDREN, TOO. WHAT BECOMES OF THEM? OH, THEY DIDN'T HAVE A DOLLAR IN THE BANK AND THEY HAD TO GO TO WORK. HE WAS ONE OF THOSE CARELESS MEN WHO SPENT ALL HE EARNED. ARE YOU DOING THAT? START A BANK ACCOUNT NOW WHETHER YOU ARE MARRIED OR NOT.

BANK WITH US. We pay 4 per cent on Time Certificates of Deposit. The Washington County Bank PLYMOUTH, N. C.