

Representative Darden Meets With Committee Proposing New School Tax Legislation

**Finds Possible Reduce Tax
On Property And Have
Eight Months School**

**SAVE TAXPAYERS
IN COUNTY \$20,000**

Those Sponsoring Movement
Desire To Reduce Property
Tax By Taxing Luxuries; New
Plan Would Induce Industries
Instead Of Driving Them
Away; Only Feasible Method
Of Cutting Taxes

By WALTER H. PARAMORE

Raleigh, Jan. 10.—It is possible to reduce taxes on property in Washington county and at the same time provide an eight months school term for every child, declares J. W. Darden, Representative to the General Assembly from Washington county who has been in conference here with members of the legislative committee of the North Carolina Education Association who are dealing with proposals for new school legislation. This committee represents fourteen thousand organized teachers who believe that a minimum school term can be so financed that it will not be a burden to the home owner or the farmer.

Since this county is enjoying the eight months school term at the present, the law if passed would mean a reduction of about 20 or 25 cents in the property tax rate thus making it about \$1.90 or \$1.95 cent each year. This reduction would be made possible by the equalization fund being increased from about \$19,000 to \$39,023 for this county. This fund represents over \$20,000 a year more for the county that will come from the treasury of the State. It is the desire of the pedagogians to induce the legislature to put this tax on luxuries in order to supply the additional \$20,000 for the schools in this county.

This plan would eliminate all special taxes levied in the various counties to run the school the extra two months. This is the only plan suggested so far that will allow the cutting of the property taxes. It is not the business of the school officials to advocate any special kind of tax but to merely show where the money can be secured for a reduction on property taxes. This plan of taxation would avoid heavy land taxation which sometimes keeps out industries and hinders those already in the State and expanding.

Increase in the equalization fund for the six months term will not help as much as does the eight months plan, since as the size of the fund is increased the large counties come in because now every additional million dollars added to the six months fund cuts taxes only five cents in the counties of the State. There will be no increase of tax on industries. Money must be raised from luxuries or there must be a cut in the school program and the continuation of already heavy land taxes.

Some of those luxuries that would likely be taxed if the new proposal is passed by the legislature is tobacco products, beverages, theatres, candies, chewing gum, perfumes and cosmetics and hydro-electric power. Some of the prominent men in the county that favor this are, J. W. Norman, J. W. Darden, George Dixon and many others.

SUPERIOR COURT OPENED HERE MONDAY

Superior court opened here Monday morning with Judge Walter L. Small, of Elizabeth City, presiding over the mixed term of criminal and civil court that will continue here for the remainder of this week and possibly next. Solicitor Don Gilliam, of Tarboro, was here during Monday morning when the criminal docket was disposed of in about a half of a day. A number of civil cases have been disposed of, and there still remains a large number on the docket for disposition.

Survey Shows Plymouth Is A Good Place For Textile Mills

**City Also Offers Opportunities To Cannery. Timber Is One Of
Greatest Assets. Brick And Tile Clay Are Resources.
Climate Industrial Asset. Population 3,000**

Taking into consideration all facts which are shown in an industrial survey made of the town by industrial representatives of a Washington City firm, Plymouth is recommended for the establishment of the following types of textile mills: Hosiery, rayon, cotton yarn, silk weave, knitting, underwear and silk throwing mills. Plymouth also offers an opportunity of great value to the canner, with various types of truck crops successfully grown inland and abundant fisheries provided by near-by waters. Canning factories producing sweet potatoes, peas, beans, and shell-fish will find a highly favorable operating location here, the survey states.

The timber of Plymouth territory is one of the town's largest resources. Not only are furniture, veneer, box and crate, and implement handle manufacturers offered large stands of suitable timber, but the water of Roanoke River, from which the town's supply is drawn, is sufficiently soft and free from iron and other chemicals to render it suitable to paper and pulp manufacture. Brick and tile clay are resources of this county. The surrounding country is flat.

Two important highways pass through the town of Plymouth. Two railroads serve the manufacturer and passenger. Steamship connections are additional good aids to freight transportation. Express rates to Charlotte for first-class parcels is \$2.20, while second class costs \$1.65.

The highest temperature in 25 years has been 100 degrees. Average date of last killing frost in spring was on April 2. Average date of first killing frost in fall was on October 31. The average number of growing days was 220. Thirty feet elevation above sea level. The annual mean rainfall is 50.37 inches; mean temperature 60.1

degrees; mean maximum temperature 70 degrees; mean minimum temperature 50.1 degrees. Average snowfall is 8.1 inches.

Among the many industrial attractions of the town of Plymouth is the abundant supply of native white and colored laborers. There are 200 white males employed here; 10 white females; 600 colored males and 100 colored females, which makes a total of 910 employed, based on figures by the surveyors. Seven industries are drawing upon the labor resources of Plymouth. Wages are moderate. Electric power can be secured. Water supply is derived from two deep wells.

Industrial sites are plentiful. Building costs are moderate. The city is under the commission of six councilmen. The fire department is modern, although it is a volunteer company. Thirty hydrants cover the town, more than 1,500 feet of standard fire hose and nozzles. The insurance rate is second class. Two policemen patrol the town day and night. Seven miles of paved streets. Streets are lighted good. Sewage disposal is excellent. School system is based on State system.

There are four white and four colored churches. Hunting and fishing may be enjoyed. One hotel serves the town's guests. One strong bank is located here. There are eight general stores, 10 groceries, 6 markets, 2 hardware stores, 1 music, 4 men's clothing, 2 radio, 7 automobile garages, 6 dry goods, 3 drugs, 2 furniture, 1 jewelry, 1 specialty, 3 shoe and 2 millinery stores. Plymouth has the following organizations: Chamber of Commerce, Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World, Women's Club, and Junior Order of the United American Mechanics.

Columbia Township Institute Program Announced Today

By MRS. W. S. CARAWAN

Columbia, Jan. 10.—A program of the activities of the Columbia Township Institute which will be held with the Rider's Creek Union Sunday School next Sunday afternoon, January 13, was announced here today by Miss Sabra Sykes, chairman of the program committee of the Tyrrell County Sunday School Association. A song by the Rider's Creek choir will open the program sharply at 2:30. It will last for about one hour and fifteen minutes.

Devotional services will be conducted by Mrs. Jerry Brickhouse which will be followed by the choir and audience in a song. Mrs. S. M. Combs will discuss the development of the young people's movement. The Free Will Baptist Sound Side Sunday School will sing a special song. Sheriff Reynolds will discuss the building of a standard Sunday School. A quartet will feature the

Albamarie Sunday School's part in the program. The Columbia Sunday School will sing. Rev. E. Poston will explain "What Makes An Efficient Sunday School."

An efficiency conference was held at the home of Mrs. S. M. Combs Sunday afternoon. This conference was held under the auspices of the Tyrrell County Sunday School Association. President D. J. Spruill invited those present to attend the Teacher's Training Class that would be held in the Methodist Church in the near future.

A measure was voted on and carried that the executive committee ask the assistance of each Sunday School in the county in an effort to make a household survey of the religious conditions of the county. Mrs. W. S. Carawan was appointed chairman of the committee. Plans are being made for this work at the present. Work will begin in a short time.

FEW INDIVIDUALS FILE INCOME TAX RETURNS

Only fifty people in Washington county filed their income tax returns covering incomes made during 1926, it was learned here today from available statistics. The inhabitant per returns are about 236. This is against a return of 10 people in Tyrrell county filing their returns with 510 inhabitants per return.

Not many farmers file income tax returns, and most likely not many farmers have net incomes that are sufficiently high to be taxed under the federal law. This aids in accounting for the lack of persons filing income tax returns.

COLUMBIA CLUB DECIDES TO STUDY STATE THIS YEAR

Columbia, Jan. 10.—It was decided that a course in "Knowing Your State" would be studied in the literary department of the local Woman's Club during this year, at the meeting held with the president last Monday evening. The Town Aldermen gave the club permission to beautify the plot extending down Broad street to the station during the coming year. The plot will be named Pettigrew's Gardens. The first baby of the club was presented with a bank book and account of \$2.50.

Germany has a ship building boom.

TOWN'S ASSETS FOR YEAR IS \$314,031.19

Current fund assets and capital assets of the Municipal Light and Water and Ice Plant at the close of last year made a total assets of \$119,422.15, it was learned today from M. W. Spruill, manager of the plant and city clerk. The total liabilities, which included current fund liabilities and capital fund liabilities and net water and light fund surplus for the plant at the same time was \$119,422.15. This shows that the plant is making money and is keeping up with its mark as set before.

Capital assets and current funds make a total assets of \$314,031.19 on December 31 for the general fund, which is used mostly by the town's affairs. Against these assets are liabilities of current funds and capital funds amounting to \$314,031.19. During the tenure of office of the incumbent members of the city council the town has been even with its debts for the first time in years. This was made possible by skillful financing by these men.

All along during the year the water and light and ice plant and the town have been in favorable circumstances, owing to the safe management of the affairs of the departments of the town by persons capable of doing this satisfactorily. These figures show an improvement over the previous year, when the city council was compelled to raise the tax rate in order to provide for bills that were being presented for immediate settlement.

Money expended by the city fathers during last year included the building of a wharf and other things that have added to the benefits of the town. This money was used to advance civic matters in a commercial or charitable way.

LEGION AUXILIARY HAS INTERESTING MEETING

Columbia, Jan. 10.—An interesting meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of the American Legion was held with Mrs. W. H. McClees Wednesday evening with Mrs. F. E. Cohoon presiding and Mrs. T. W. Armstrong as secretary. The organization will continue aiding the two soldiers in the Oteen Hospital. Mrs. L. L. Yerby will be hostess at the next meeting on the first Wednesday evening in February. Two objectives decided on for the year includes efforts to get all the soldiers in Washington and Tyrrell counties to register and write a history of their services during the war so a permanent record can be kept in the courthouses for future records.

COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETS MONDAY

Three of the five school buildings and lots offered for sale by the County Board of Education have been sold, it was learned in a meeting of the board here in the courthouse last Monday morning. Other business matters that claimed the attention of the board at this time were not of much importance.

FIREMEN ATTEND MEETING OF ASSOCIATION TUESDAY

Delegates from here that represented the local Fire Department at the meeting of the Eastern Carolina Firemen's Association held Tuesday evening in Belhaven were Chief L. W. Gurkin, R. S. Tarkenton, Jack Willoughby, Surry Wright and Assistant Chief L. C. Willoughby. The meeting was held in the Hyde county courthouse.

ALMO THEATRE TONIGHT

Cecil B. De Mille's
"King of Kings"
ADM. 25 AND 50c

Saturday Night Only

Conrad Nagel
IN
The Girl from Chicago
Third Episode of Serial
"Mark of the Frog"

M. G. M. NEWS
MONDAY AND TUESDAY

Douglas Fairbanks

IN
"Don Q Son of Zorror"

County Officials Hear Report Of Miss Covington

**SPECIALISTS TO
VISIT COUNTY
CLUBS SOON**

Five specialists have been asked to visit the home demonstration clubs in Washington county during the year, according to information imparted by Miss Pratt Covington, Home demonstration agent, in a meeting of the Washington County Council which met in the agent's office in the courthouse last Saturday. The visits of these specialists were included in the program that was adopted by the clubs for the year's work.

Mrs. Jane McKimmon, State Home Demonstration Agent, of Raleigh, will address the federation meeting which will be held in Plymouth, January 25. Miss Mary E. Thomas, State College food specialist, will hold a leader's school in the courthouse, January 30. Miss Pauline Smith, of State College, will address a federation meeting to be held October 11. Miss Georgia Piland will formulate plans for beautifying the courthouse grounds at a meeting in March. Miss Estabrook will give a demonstration on room improvement.

In January there will be a survey of food conditions; February, food selection, will be demonstrated; March, yard improvement, and study of cereals; April, eggs for breakfast; May, milk and its use; June, basketry, value of vegetables in the diet; July, food conservation, canning for winter use; August, food conservation, canning for fairs; September quick bread, for school lunch; October, Use of fruit in diet; November county wide achievement day; December, arts and crafts.

JOHN W. DARDEN HONORED BY FRATERNAL ORDER

Grand Master J. W. Darden, of Perserverence Lodge, No. 54, of the Masonic Lodge, is in receipt of a certificate from the Grand Lodge of Utah conferring upon him the honor of membership in that lodge and requesting that he attend the Grand Lodge meeting in Boise some time during the next month or so at their expense. Inasmuch as Mr. Darden is in the House of Representatives of North Carolina, he states that he will more than likely be too busy to attend.

SOLDIERS GATHER FOR AN OYSTER ROAST AT COLUMBIA

Columbia, Jan. 10.—One of the most delightful events of the season was an oyster roast given by the American Legion on the platform of the Norfolk Southern station last Friday evening. Those attending were the Legion Auxiliary members and all the former soldiers in Washington and Tyrrell counties. This was the largest gathering of soldiers since the jubilee was given on their return from the World War.

LOCAL MAN RECOVERING FROM AN OPERATION

Reports received here today reveal that O. H. Lyon, proprietor of the local O. Henry Drug Store, is steadily improving after an operation that he underwent in a Norfolk hospital last Wednesday. The operation was made in his head on account of some chronic ailment that had been bothering him for some time, although it was not serious.

CROWDS VISITING LOCAL GARAGE VIEWING NEW WHIPPET

Crowds have thronged to see the new superior Whippet that was put on display in the show rooms of the Plymouth Garage & Motor Co. last Friday. Many new features of this light car that has been invading the small car field for a number of years were explained to the visitors by courteous salesmen. L. W. Gurkin, manager of the firm, stated that "prospects for better sales than were made last year are bright."

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Johnston attended the funeral of Mr. Haywood Hyman in Scotland Neck Sunday.

**Most Of White Families In
County Reached By Club
Work In Three Months**

**WRITES OVER 2,000
LETTERS IN PERIOD**

Travels Over 3600 Miles In
Last Quarter Of 1928; Makes
324 Hats At A Saving Of
\$972; Interiors of Sixteen
Homes Rearranged; Many
New Members Enrolled In
Recent Campaign

Six hundred and eleven out of the 778 white farm families in Washington county have been reached during the past three months in the program of the home demonstration work in this county, it was revealed Monday in the report submitted to the County Commissioners in their regular monthly session here by Miss Pratt Covington, Washington county home demonstration agent. These families do not include the work done with the families in the towns in the county.

One hundred and thirty farm homes have been visited exclusive of the home represented in the regular club work. During the months from October to January first over 3600 miles have been traveled in this kind of work. Ninety-eight new members have been enrolled during the past three months. Sixty-eight families were visited and helped exclusive of club members. Miss Covington drove eighteen miles on one occasion and helped one woman make hats for her entire family as she lived too far to attend club meetings.

As a result of demonstrations in making felt hats 324 hats were made. If the same hats were purchased for a small amount as \$3 each, the saving would total \$972. Sixteen homes have rearranged their window draperies, forty-three children's dresses have been made along with a number of Christmas presents as the results of demonstrations in arts and crafts. Several members are starting some of these ideas now, and some are planning for the spring.

During the December meetings a membership campaign was conducted along with the study of cake and cake decorations. Two leaders were selected from each of the fifteen clubs to attend the Leaders School which was given by the home demonstration agent with thirty-five women present. Fifty-six new members were enrolled as a result of the membership campaign.

An exhibit at the Coastal Plain Fair was put on under the direction of the home demonstration agent of the county. Most of the \$68.75 realized was awarded to individuals. Seventy-six women and forty girls attended the federation meeting held in Creswell during this time which included representatives from each club in the county but one. About \$10.90 has been realized through rummage sales to apply on improving the courthouse grounds. The principal lecture to the club members during the period was made by Dr. B. W. Wells, Professor of Botany, at State College.

During a one week bazaar \$51.25 was realized for the personal benefit of the women contributing. A profit of \$4.32 was realized from a number of articles that were bought from a gift shop for resale which will be added to the fund for the courthouse grounds. A dinner was given to the former County Commissioners during November by the home demonstration clubs. In December Miss Covington attended the State meeting of the extension workers at State College.

SCHOOLS OPENED MONDAY

More than 3,000 children resumed their studies in Washington County schools Monday morning after a recess of two weeks for the Christmas holidays. These students were greeted by just about a hundred teachers when they entered the school rooms last Monday.