

## Shoe Maker With No Feet Plies Humble Trade Supply Needs Family In Plymouth

"Business must be good as you seem to be in such a happy mood today," said a representative of The Beacon and News to a local shoe repairer, who was whistling and singing alternately, as the reporter entered his little shop on Water street to leave some work for him.

"Oh, it isn't rushing me by any means," he replied, "however, taking everything into consideration I think it is fair as I am making a living."

"Well, if you are getting a plenty to do it is better than a number of workers here are doing," continued the reporter, "as most of them are pleading hard times in big letters."

"Listen, boy, if I were the kind that always looked on the gloomy side of life, and was itching to find something to complain about, I could find it every day in the fix I am in," the good natured cobbler replied.

The newspapermen sensing a good human interest story, casually settle down into a proffered chair, and braced himself for hearing another of those hard luck tales that generally come from the lips of those unfortunates that have a knack of asking for alms without mentioning it.

"I am a reported for the Beacon and News," said the chaser of news. "Just heard you suggest that you had had a checkered career. Seems there ought to be a good story. Let's talk some—it might help business in the long run."

"There is nothing interesting in the life of a poor, crippled repairer to put in the paper, is there?" the shoe maker asked. "Well, you go ahead and tell in your own words the most important incidents in your life, and we will let these hard-hearted editors settle the matter as to its news value," the reporter replied.

"Well, I don't know how to start as I am not sure that I know exactly what you are after," the shoemaker asked. "Begin by telling me when and where the accident occurred in which you were crippled as you mention in the first of our conversation," suggested the reporter for an opening.

"It was this way," he began. "About seven years ago I was working at a saw mill down in Duplin county. One day I was standing by a log carriage that carried the logs by the saws; when by accident I fell on the carriage just as the sawyer was pulling the lever to carry the logs by the saws, and before he could stop it, both of my legs were cut off.

"The left leg was cut off below the knee and the right limb was severed above the knee. In 10 minutes after the accident occurred I was under the attention of a skilled physician. After the lapse of a few minutes I was rushed to a hospital where they gave me good attention. When I was discharged several months afterward I had artificial limbs so that I could hobble along.

"Surely during this time you have had some kind of interesting experience in providing for a wife and four children as you were handicapped on account of inconvenience in getting around," asked the reporter. "Of course, want to hear some of them?" the shoe maker asked. "Yes, one or two of the best," the newspaperman agreed.

"Right after getting out of the hospital my wife was taken seriously ill. The doctor said she would have to have an operation. Then I explained my condition pointing out to him that I had no money. He took her to the hospital anyway. I left for Norfolk in quest of a job that a crippled man could do. First off, I had rotten luck. Everything was filled up.

"In the meantime my expenses were mounting. My pockets were empty. So I called at a news stand and purchased a bundle of Virginian Pilots and Ledger dispatches and sold them. It netted me a good profit. I had a certain amount of money. I had more long people than other news boys. I sent my wife \$50.

"Another matter that comes to my memory is that while I was on the corner selling papers a man came along and gave me \$10. I did not know him at the time. I later found out that it was the president of the Seaboard National Bank at that time. Soon after I came back to North Carolina to be with my wife.

## MERCHANTS TO MEET MONDAY WITH C. OF C.

Merchants of this place that are interested in the organization of a Retail Merchants Association are urged to be present at the meeting of the chamber of commerce Monday evening as there are matters pertaining to the new organization that will be discussed in the way of preliminary activities that are essential to the formulating plans.

There are a large number of merchants here that have spoken in the interest of the matter since the appearance of the article relative to the proposed organization in the Beacon last week. These men are urged to be present at the chamber of commerce meeting so that sufficient interest will be manifested to cause those sponsoring the idea to continue the plans until they mature.

One of those interested in the organization will be there with information received from Willard L. Dowell of Raleigh, secretary of the North Carolina Merchants Association. In a letter received from Mr. Dowell he stated, "that if the merchants are sufficiently interested in the matter to put forth some efforts, and desire this organization will send a representative to help the Plymouth merchants organize and explain to them the functions of such a body."

An organization of this kind has been talked for some time. At the chamber of commerce meeting next Monday evening it will be definitely decided as to when and where the first meeting will be held. The matter will be brought to the attention of all the merchants attending. Those interested will be visited by a special committee with a petition on which will be signed the names of all the merchants interested in the matter.

## CLEAR ROAD FROM PANTEGO TO COUNTY LINE

Wenona, April 18.—The right of way of the road from the Washington county line to Pantego has been cleared, and the grading is now proceeding nicely. The road when completed will be 40 feet wide, and will be made straight. It will connect Wenona and Pungo with Highway No. 91 at Pantego.

"Well, how come you to drift down here in this section of Eastern North Carolina?" queried the newspaperman again in order to lead him further into conversation.

"It happened this way," continued the shoe mechanic, "when I returned from Virginia I came into contact with persons who advised me to allow the state to train me for some vocation. I did this. In a short time, I became a monotype operator. I soon got out of a job in this capacity.

"Then I received training as a shoe repairer. Once I lost a job of this kind in Richmond and hunted all over the city for such a job. Walking so much caused me to have to go to the hospital on account of my feet. This time my expense was borne by the Red Men. After getting able to travel I was sent back to by home in North Carolina.

"One day I read of a shop for sale in the News and Observer and in a few days I came over here to buy the plant. This I did. I made a bargain, and I am working again. I appreciate anything anybody gives me, however, I had rather have a job that I can do that I can make an honest living for those depending upon me," he continued.

"Did you make a mistake in your choice of trades and are you satisfied?" asked the inquisitive reporter. "The only and biggest mistake I ever made was when I refused to take out the \$10,000 accident insurance policy when an agent accosted me ten days before my legs were cut off when I had the money to pay the premium in my pocket at the time," he concluded.

"I gotta go," said the reporter. "Good-bye, hey, what paper did you say that would be in?" he queried. "Friday's Beacon and News," the departing newspaperman replied.

Thus ended the conversation between George C. West and the writer.

## EARLY HISTORY LOCAL SCHOOL INTERESTING

SCHOOL OBSERVER OF 1925. No record of the origin of Plymouth school has been kept, but from what can be learned the first schoolhouse, a small building consisting of only one room, was built on what is known as "Red Hill" which was about a half mile from the town limits at that time.

In 1847, an academy, a two-story building, was erected on the corner of Church and Adams Streets. This building was used until the Civil war, when it was destroyed.

For a while there was no school building, but a short term school was taught in different parts of the town, wherever they could find a room. After a period of a few years a school building was erected on fourth street. It was soon found, however, that the children were crowded and a new and larger building was needed.

In 1897 Dr. Hampton, a man who loved his town and desired to contribute something to it donated a sum of money for the erection of a public school. This building was begun in 1898, finished in 1901 and used for the first time in 1902. The name that was given to this school was Hampton Academy. This was a modern building indeed at that time—a two-story brick building of eight rooms. Words cannot express the great good accomplished in this building which was used for about twenty years. However, the number of school children on roll increased each year, and the building became too crowded for convenience. In 1919 bonds for \$125,000 were issued for the erection of a new building. The work on the present school was begun in the year 1920.

In 1922 the building was completed and school work was begun in September of the same year. The new school is built of brick and steel and reinforced concrete and it is three stories high, including the basement. On the basement floor are the furnace motors and fans to furnish heat and air, also the laboratories, lunch room, domestic science department and shower bath equipment.

On the second floor are the offices, library and eight class rooms, with a wide corridor the full length of the building. On the third floor is a large auditorium, dressing rooms, and four class rooms, each having its own cloak room and all necessary equipment.

Standard high school work was begun in this building and was the only standard high school in Washington County until 1925. Since the new school building has been in use the students have taken part in triangle debates, football, basketball, baseball games, and many other things that formerly they did not have opportunity to take a part. The larger school ground now makes possible an athletic field.

Students should be proud to say that, at this time, they have as nice a school as there is in eastern North Carolina.

## ENTERTAIN SOPHOMORE AND JUNIOR CLASSES

Mackays, April 18.—Miss Evelyn and Herbert Chesson entertained the sophomore and junior classes of Mackays High School at their home Friday evening. Rook, Krokinoles and old fashioned games were played also a contest was enjoyed. The prize was won by Miss Frances Everett. Ice cream and cake were served. Those attending were: Misses Evelyn Chesson, Margaret Davenport, Fannie and Elsie Chesson, Louise Ainsley, Maria Patrick, Florida Collins, Audrey Patrick, Connie Stelman, Elizabeth Chesson, Nellie Alexander and Mildred Ballance, Messrs. Edison Knowles, Aumack and Frances Everett, Herbert Chesson, Robert Patrick, Mercer Stillman, Bradley Forbes, Ross Chesson and Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Chesson.

## WOMAN'S SHOP IN NEW STORE BUILDING

Removal of the Woman's Shop stock from the previous business establishment on Washington street near Carstarphen's Smoke Shop into a store on Water street formerly occupied by C. J. Norman took place this week.

All the customers of Mrs. Edison Swain, the proprietor, are urged to continue their patronage with her on Water street as the new building is large and commodious and her stock will more than likely be increased.

## BEACON AND NEWS SOLD LEE ROY HARRIS

When dreams come true Eleven years ago when Lee Roy Harris was 12 years of age he began work in the office of the Roanoke Beacon. At the age of 23 years he is owner of the plant and publisher of the paper. This is a fulfillment of his dream.

In 1917, Lee Roy Harris, began newspaper work in Washington county and has continued it in this county and state, including three months study of typography in New York, continuously for 11 years.

A part of this desire was realized when he came back to Plymouth and joined the class of 1926. With the cooperation of J. W. Norman, superintendent of city schools, at that time, and the class, he established the School Observer, an organ that is a credit to any high school.

On October 19, 1928, a step of his dream became a reality when the first edition of the Washington County News appeared. Last Tuesday the final step in his dream came true when he acquired the Washington County News and the Roanoke Beacon. Both are combined into one paper consisting variously of 4, 6 and 8 pages.

There is a possibility of a newspaper in Plymouth serving Washington county as a whole in a beneficial manner to the readers, advertisers and publishers. This is the ambition of the Beacon and News. It wants to serve. Any criticism from its readers will be appreciated.

The personnel of the combined papers will be composed of Lee Roy Harris as publisher; Walter H. Paramore, editor; and Bill Arps, printers "Devil". Eight or more paid correspondents will cover the news happenings in all sections of the county.

Mr. Paramore who has been with the Beacon for the last two or more years will continue in a promoted capacity as editor instead of an associate editor in the past. In addition to Mr. Paramore's duties with the local paper he is correspondent for the News and Observer, Raleigh; Ledger Dispatch, Norfolk; Virginian Pilot, Norfolk; Daily Advance, Elizabeth City. He is representative for the United Press, of Atlanta, Ga., possibly second to the great Associated Press news gathering organization. Also he conducts a weekly department in The Independent, of Elizabeth City, a paper which has a large circulation than any other weekly newspaper in North Carolina, on "Interesting People I Have Met."

The policy of the Roanoke Beacon and the News will be only slightly changed, if it is changed at all. No special changes are necessary in the general character of news carried in the papers. It may be said that the papers will cater to a better and more organized system for collection of news and for preparing it for publication. The Beacon and News respects the wishes of its readers.

## HOLD JOINT MEETING OF LEGION AND AUXILIARY

Columbia, April 18.—The American Legion held a regular monthly meeting Monday night with the members of its auxiliary as invited guests.

The business meeting was presided over by Commander F. E. Cahoon. Chaplin Roy L. Litchfield had charge of the installation ceremonies. After which a very delightful social hour was enjoyed. During this time several talks of interest were made and Dr. Johnson, who acted as host served very delicious cherry cake, ice cream and grape juice.

The following were present from the Auxiliary: Mesdames Jessie Holmes, Percy Selby, K. K. Yerby, C. B. McKeel, F. E. Cahoon, T. K. Yerby, W. H. McCless, E. Godwin, T. W. Armstrong, James Davenport, W. S. Carawan, Misses Sabra and Martha Sykes. Most of the members of the Legion were present for the occasion.

## GIRLS' CIRCLE MEETS WITH MISS GLADYS KEMP

The girls' circle of the Missionary Society of the Christian Church met with Miss Gladys Kemp Tuesday evening with about ten present. Mrs. P. H. Darden was elected to serve as advisor in the place of Mrs. C. T. Robbins. The next meeting will be held with Miss Neva Liverman on the second Tuesday evening in May.

R. P. Walker and Louis Horton were in Norfolk during the week end.

## Third Ward Center Of Bitter Struggle City Election Fight

### BAPTIST FOLKS MEET TODAY IN WILLIAMSTON

Delegates from Plymouth will attend the regional meeting of the Baptist Young People's Union that will open in Williamston today for a two-day session.

Three hundred young Baptist people are expected to attend the event. Williamston pastors have been advised from headquarters to prepare for the entertainment overnight of about half this number. It is expected that many will drive home after the meeting in the evening.

Dr. Francis P. Gaines, president of Wake Forest College, is the principal speaker for the occasion. His address is scheduled for Friday night in the Baptist Church.

The first session will be called to order Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Routine matters will be arranged in connection with the perfection of the organization at the first session. Preliminary exercises will be disposed of in a hurry at the evening session in order to allow Dr. Gaines more time.

Registration of delegates will take place in the vestibules of the church as they enter. Assignment to homes to which they were assigned to spend the night.

Williamston Baptists are in quite a quandary as to where they will obtain sleeping quarters of the influx of young folk. Many outsiders have joined in the endeavor to provide comforts for the young folk by offering their homes. Those that stay overnight will be furnished with bed and breakfast. Other places including cafes and restaurants are preparing for the event.

### MRS. C. W. SNELL HOSTESS

Pleasant Grove, April 18.—Mrs. C. W. Snell entertained the Ladies Aid society of Pleasant Grove at her home Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. J. C. Tarkenton presiding. Miss Mattie Wynne of Cape Charles, Va., lead the devotional reading, followed by prayer. Miss Myrtle Tarkenton rendered the secretary's report and minutes of the last meeting.

Mrs. C. W. Snell read the financial report, stating that a donation of some window drapery had been made to the parsonage, and some repair work done to the church, leaving in the treasury enough money to commence the general repair work on the church while donations are still being solicited. A collection of several was reported and made note of. Among the largest collection was \$107.50 reported by Mrs. J. C. Tarkenton.

One new member was added to the roll at this meeting. Mrs. Effie W. Gurkin. A very pleasant social hour was enjoyed, after which a delicious course of home made ice cream and chocolate cake was served. Three visitors were present: Mrs. Effie W. Gurkin, Miss Mattie Wynne and Mrs. Era Chesson. The next meeting will be with Mrs. W. B. Chesson.

### AUTO MANUFACTURERS USE THE RAILROADS VERY MUCH

Striking evidence of the heavy demands made annually on the railroads by automobile manufacturers came to light yesterday with the announcement of C. R. Scharff, general traffic director of Chevrolet Motor Company, that the company's freight bill for 1928, representing inbound and outbound shipments for 16 domestic plants, totalled more than \$46,000,000. This was an increase of more than \$11,000,000 over the 1927 bill.

In making the announcement, Mr. Scharff revealed that the 1928 bill covered the movement of 272,368 carloads of freight, totalling 7,968,047,324 pounds. Exclusive of this poundage Mr. Scharff declared there was an additional 221,403,427 pounds of less than carload freight, 4,767,783 pounds shipped by express and 331,040 driveaways.

Atty. A. D. McLean, of Washington, and H. S. Ward, of Washington, were here this week attending the April term of civil court.

### Four Candidates Throw Hats In Ring Nearly Four Weeks To Election

### HARRY STELL IS IN RACE AGAIN

Davis And Campbell Seeking Reelection From Second City Precinct; Williford And Owens Delay In Announcing Candidacies For Unknown Reasons; Walker Alone After Mayoralty; Campaign To Be Hot Affair.

War is raging already in the third ward among the four candidates as the time for the municipal election draws near.

Those entering the race from this ward are W. J. Jackson Jr., W. E. Weede, Harry Stell and H. C. Spruill. C. M. Tetterton will not run from this ward as he is to move into another ward by the time the election will come off which will disqualify him. Harry Stell is seeking reelection.

It has been definitely announced that B. G. Campbell and Gilbert

Davis will enter the contest to retain their seats in the City Council as representatives from the second ward. These men have been on the council for the past term. Mr. Campbell was appointed by the City Council to fill the unexpired term of B. F. Deard who resigned when he was transferred to Norfolk by his employer.

H. A. Williford and Atty. E. L. Owens are not decided as to whether or not they will announce their candidacies for reelection, it was learned yesterday. They have each served a term of two years having been elected in the warm contest in 1927 which marked the beginning of a new administration as none of the old councilmen were retained.

So far as is known now Mayor R. P. Walker will have no opposition. However, caucusing has been slow among the town politicians as the time of election is hardly four weeks off. It is thought that all the candidates entering the race will be ready to announce their candidacies publicly by next week.

The policies upon which the candidates will announce their campaign will be made public in a few days. It is thought by those acquainted with local politics that the fight will be very hot.

### BE PATIENT WITH PUBLISHERS THIS WEEK IF YOU MISS PAPER

Subscribers to the Roanoke Beacon and the Washington County News that happen not to get their paper this week will please be patient with us as every possible method is being made by the publishers to get the paper to you, however, as the papers are being combined and the subscription list increased so much, there is likely to be some errors made in mailing.

Also we have been using every available spare moment installing our new Cottrell press that will aid in making the paper easier to read. It also aids us in handling large news circulars that have a medium amount of composition. This will greatly expedite matters in the printing line here. Readers are invited to stop in and see it when in town.

### J. W. NORMAN RE-ELECTED SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

James W. Norman was reelected county superintendent of public instruction by the members of the County Board of Education in special session last Monday.

The County Board of Education also held a joint meeting with the members of the board of the city school. Methods of the operation of schools on an economical basis in compatibility with efficiency was the central theme of discussion.

M. Nelson and Mrs. Minnie Lee were in Norfolk during the week end. Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Moore and family were in Hertford during the week end. They were accompanied by Tom Copeland.