

THE ROANOKE BEACON

AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

A home newspaper dedicated to the service of Washington County and its 12,000 people.

Advertisers will find Beacon and News columns a latch-key to 1,100 Washington County homes.

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MRS. BASNIGHT DIES AT HOME IN SCUPPERNONG

Funeral Held Monday Afternoon at Scuppernon Christian Church

Scuppernon, July 14.—Mrs. Ellen Barnes Basnight, 77 years of age, and wife of James Basnight, died at her home here Sunday. Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon at Scuppernon Christian church with Rev. Roy Respass, pastor, officiating. The deceased had been a faithful member of this church for years.

The funeral was largely attended, and the many beautiful floral offerings manifested the esteem in which the deceased was held by her friends and neighbors.

Mrs. Basnight was a daughter of the late John Barnes and Martha Grandy Barnes, well-known citizen of this county. She had lived a consistent Christian life and had devoted of her time and means to charity. No one was ever turned from her door who was in need of assistance. She had helped to rear several of her brothers and sisters' children and was indeed a mother to them in every way.

Besides her husband, the deceased is survived by one son, Lee Basnight; two grand-daughters, Wilma and Evla Basnight; three nieces, Mrs. George Bright, of Elizabeth City; Mrs. Martha Tarkenton, of Pine Grove; and Mrs. John W. Spruill, of this place. Also six nephews, Herbert and Clyde Barnes, of Norfolk, Va.; Thomas Furlough, of Norfolk; Jim Furlough and C. F. Barnes, of Myrtle Beach, S. C.; Cecil Barnes, of Elizabeth City; and A. J. Barnes, of Pleasant Grove.

SEVERAL CASES BEFORE COURT HERE TUESDAY

Escaped Convict Held for Superior Court for Breaking in Railroad Depots

James Moore, 21-year-old white man and escaped convict from the state prison, was tried on charge of breaking, entering, and larceny in connection with the robbery of the railway depots at Creswell and Mackeys last week, in the local recorder's court here Tuesday. He was bound over to superior court on probable cause and is being held in the local jail.

Moore was arrested in Tyrrell County last week following the robbing of the Norfolk Southern depots at Creswell and Mackeys. He is alleged to have secured something over \$240 from the safe in the Creswell depot, which he carried into Tyrrell County. He did not succeed in opening the safe at Mackeys.

Other cases tried and disposed of were:

J. T. Cahoon, 40-year-old white man, was found guilty of assault with a deadly weapon and was sentenced to the chain gang for 18 months.

"Bunk" Woodley, 48-year-old colored man, was also tried and found guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon and was assigned to the roads for a period of two years.

Ed Brooks, 19-year-old colored boy, was tried and found guilty of the larceny of a cow and sentenced to the roads for two years. It seems that Brooks stole the cow and attempted to sell it for beef, but the animal being a fine milk cow, the man to whom he attempted to dispose of the cow suspected something wrong. Later the negro returned the cow to the owner, but not in time to save himself from the roads.

Rufus Norfleet, 18-year-old colored youth, was tried on charges of seduction but was found not guilty.

Roper Demonstration Club Holds Meeting

The Roper Home Demonstration Club met July 8 with Mrs. L. E. Hassell, club garden leader. The meeting was called to order by the president. At the close of the opening exercises the following business was transacted: Motion carried that no meeting should be held in August, the home agent aiding individuals in canning and preserving. Mesdames Hassell and Halsey gave some very helpful household hints. The meeting was then turned over to Miss Covington, who gave recipes for sandwich spreads, exhibiting a jar she had made, also distributing leaflets containing various recipes and other valuable information to home makers. July being the month for garden leaders to hold the meeting, Mrs. Hassell took us to see her garden, introducing us to the many vegetables growing there. It was a splendid garden with a very fine showing of vegetables. Returning to the house, the hostess served delicious refreshments. The September meeting will be with Mrs. Jack McAllister.

Fifty Carloads of Tomatoes Shipped From Local Plant

Fifty cars of tomatoes had been shipped from Plymouth to northern markets at noon Wednesday by the Crockett Packing Company, which started packing green tomatoes here the first of the month. Packing will continue in full force during the balance of this month and probably longer. Some green tomatoes will be packed each week until September.

The canning plant is also being put into readiness for the season, and it is expected that canning will be commenced the latter part of this week. The canning season will continue until the middle of September, it is understood.

Members of the Crockett Pack-

ing Company were of the opinion that at least 200 cars of green tomatoes would be shipped to northern markets from here before the season is over.

Approximately 861 boxes of green tomatoes are packed into each car, and each box contains around 100 tomatoes. This would make 86,000 tomatoes to each car, and for the fifty cars already shipped a grand total of 4,305,000 tomatoes. This would supply the entire population of Washington County; that is, each person in the county with one tomato each day for one whole year, with approximately 15,000 left over for seed purposes.

Creswell Citizens Precipitate Stormy Session at Board of Education Meeting Monday

FALSE ALARM LATE SUNDAY MUCH TROUBLE

Turned in During Heavy Rain; \$25 Reward for Arrest, Conviction

Members of the Plymouth Fire Department were put to a lot of extra trouble and expense here late Sunday afternoon as the result of a false fire alarm, which sent the members of the company rushing out into the storm and rain about 5 o'clock. All of the firemen were drenched to the skin, their clothes muddied and soiled in addition to the cost of taking the truck out. The cost of taking the truck out was estimated at around \$12 or more, and the cost of the damaged clothes of the firemen amount to around \$15.

Officers as yet have been unable to discover who turned the false alarm in, but efforts are being made to apprehend the guilty party or parties and expose them to the full penalty of the law. The town has an ordinance whereby \$25 reward is offered for the conviction of any person for turning in a false alarm to the fire department.

Local citizens, as well as town officials, desire to impress the fact upon the public that the fire department is a volunteer company, and the members receive no pay for their services. Yet they give of their time and hazard their lives in order to protect the taxpayers' property from damage and destruction by fire. Then, too, the fire truck is a very expensive machine and costs the town money every time it is started. The purpose of the fire company is to protect property and lives from fire and it should not be an object for playing expensive pranks upon.

Cherry Woman's Club Holds Meet Tuesday

The Cherry Woman's Club was entertained at its regular meeting on Tuesday, July 14, by Mrs. R. E. Davenport. The meeting was opened by the vice president, Mrs. G. A. Overton, who read a chapter from St. Matthew.

Following the business part of the program, Mrs. R. E. Davenport gave a very attractive demonstration on making reed baskets from honeysuckle vines. The meeting was then turned over to the home agent, Miss Covington, who gave a demonstration on making sandwich spreads. Each club member was given two canning books and the subject of making pickles was discussed.

The president of the club, Mrs. Aaron Davenport, helped the home agent during the afternoon get new members for the club. We were fortunate in having the following come out and join, and prospects of a number of others: Mrs. Woodley Ambrose, Mrs. Ida S. Phelps; and Miss Mary S. Davenport.

Local Fire Department Fights Fire in Columbia

Last Thursday morning about 2 o'clock, the local fire company was called to Columbia to fight a fire which gutted one of the main business buildings there. The local firemen made the trip from Plymouth to Columbia in 38 minutes.

The company succeeded in getting the fire under control and preventing a number of other buildings from igniting.

DEMAND REASON FOR DISMISSAL OF PRINCIPAL SWAIN

Reorganization of Local Board May Take Place As Result

A rather stormy session was unexpectedly staged at a called meeting of the Washington County Board of Education in the office of James W. Norman, superintendent of public instruction, here Monday, when a delegation of Creswell citizens appeared before the board and demanded an explanation for the dismissal of former Principal H. L. Swain.

The delegation was composed of around 25 men and women, representing the parent-teacher association and a committee from the local school board. The parent-teacher association, through its spokesman, Rev. Mr. Williams, asked for better sanitary arrangements in their school building, suitable sewage disposal and a more adequate water supply.

A discussion followed, participated in by various members of the committee, and a demand was made on the local board for an explanation of the cause for dismissal of former Principal H. L. Swain. A session of acrimonious debate followed.

The Swain supporters claimed he had rendered good services and the people almost as a whole were pleased with the principal's work. The secretary stated that Swain was not re-employed because he had resigned. Chairman Swain expressed the opinion that the best solution of the matter was to call for a reorganization of the local board and to appoint an entirely new membership.

J. C. Gatlin requested that this should not be done, and asked that his resignation be accepted, stating that he thought the criticism was directed against him. However, it was decided to defer the whole matter until July 23, at which time a meeting of the County Board of Education has been called.

Among other things done during the day was the awarding of prizes to school truck drivers for efficient service performed during the year. Stewart Lewis was awarded the first, of \$15; William Roebuck, second prize, \$10; William Ross Chesson, third prize, \$5.

The board also ordered that the bid of \$917.95 for roof work as specified, and \$23 for repair of gutters of the Roper school, made by Baker and Rawls, of Raleigh, be accepted, provided this action meets with the approval of the state school board.

A special meeting of the board has been called for July 23, at which time the Creswell matter will be taken up again.

Scuppernon Woman's Club in Regular Meet

Scuppernon, July 14.—The Woman's Club of Scuppernon was entertained by Mrs. M. F. Davenport at her home Monday afternoon, July 13th. The president conducted the devotional service, after which the meeting was turned over to Miss Pratt Covington. She gave a demonstration on making pickle relish and so forth.

She also gave recipe books and bulletins on canning. This demonstration proved very beneficial to the women who are planning to have a supply of canned goods for winter use. Following a social hour, Miss Sadie Davenport, assisted by Miss Callie Patrick, served refreshments, consisting of lemonade and cake. The next meeting will be a joint canning affair at some club member's home, which will be announced later.

MRS. MARY BELL IS VISITOR HERE AFTER 40 YEARS

Sister of Late W. C. Ayers Returns Unexpectedly To Visit Relatives

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Bell, 90 years young, of McAllister, Okla., is spending the week with her niece, Mrs. Claudius McGowan, visiting relatives and friends here. Mrs. Bell is a sister of the late W. C. Ayers, of this place, having left this country some forty years ago with her husband to settle in Oklahoma, which was known as Indian Territory at that time.

Relatives of Mrs. Bell were under the impression that she was dead, and hence when she arrived here Sunday she was greeted by a surprised group of relatives and friends. She visited her brother, E. W. Ayers, of Washington, Sunday, accompanied there by Plymouth people.

Notwithstanding her 90 years, Mrs. Bell is enjoying the best of health and is quite active. She is a most interesting conversationalist, having seen the frontier settled and developed to its present state of civilization.

The Washington Daily News carried the following story in its Monday issue:

"Imagine, after an absence of over 40 years, how it would feel to have a sister 90 years of age come all the way from McAllister, Okla., to pay you a visit, who you thought had probably died many years ago?"

"This is actually what happened to E. W. Ayers, of this city, on Sunday. Mr. Ayers received a telephone message from relatives in Plymouth saying that they were on their way to Washington with his sister, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Bell, of McAllister, Okla., early Sunday morning to spend the day with him.

"Mrs. Bell, who left her home years ago with her husband, went out to Oklahoma to reside while Oklahoma was an Indian Territory. As time went on, owing to unsatisfactory mode of communication during that early period, Mrs. Bell lost track of her relatives.

"She decided a few weeks ago to come to Norfolk and look up a half-sister, whom she knew resided there many years ago. She came all the way from McAllister alone, and upon her arrival at Norfolk found her sister, who was still living there.

"Through a Norfolk paper a Plymouth relative read of her arrival and went to Norfolk, via auto, for Mrs. Bell and brought her on to Washington to see Mr. Ayers.

"I had no trouble in making the trip whatever," said Mrs. Bell today. "The conductors all along the way took a special interest in me and looked out for me throughout the whole trip."

"In speaking of her early days, Mrs. Bell said, 'I distinctly remember my great-grandfather, who served under General Washington during the Revolutionary war. I remember as a little child getting upon his knee and playing with the gold tassels and epaulets on his uniform, and the sword tipped with gold that he wore at his side. My husband served under General Lee, being a flag bearer in the Confederate army.'"

COUNTY BOARD MEETS TO HEAR TAX COMPLAINTS

Number Protest Valuations On Property at Meet Here This Week

The board of county commissioners, sitting as a board of equalization and review, for the purpose of equalizing land values for taxation for the year 1931, met with County Tax Supervisor John W. Darden Wednesday and Thursday to judge appeals of property owners from various parts of the county who entertained the opinion that property owned by them was not placed on the books for taxation at a fair and just appraisal.

There were quite a large number who aired their contentions before the board, which meets each year just prior to the completion of the tax books, so that those who seek relief may present their claims.

Schedule of Prices at Curb Market Saturday

Saturday special, corn	14c
Eggs, per dozen	10c
Butter, per pound	35c
Young chickens, pound	25c
Beets, per bunch	4c
Buttern beans, per quart	23c
Snap peas, per quart	20c
Tomatoes, per pound	4c
Beans (pole) per pound	30c
Peaches, peck	5c
Dressed chickens	29c
Curb market opens promptly at 8 o'clock.	

Yard Improvement Contest Tour Is Being Made Today

CHERRY FARMER MAKES \$1 A DAY ON FLOCK HENS

G. F. Woodley Is Showing Way To Farmers of His Section

There are 365 days in a year, and Mr. G. F. Woodley, of Cherry, one of the best farmers in all that section, will tell you that he nets \$365 from his flock of hens during these so many days.

Mr. Woodley is 76 years young, and Mrs. Woodley, about the same age, looks even younger. All of the 15 children born to this remarkable couple are living with the exception of four. They are scattered in all directions—some living near the old home and some living in distant cities.

Mr. Woodley raises all of his food and feed. He grows corn 60 bushels to the acre without fertilizer. He grows stock, beefs, hay and raises some of the finest hogs seen anywhere. The Richmond market pays him 10 cents per pound for his hogs. Mr. Woodley has one cow that gives five gallons of milk a day. He does not believe in scrub stock, and keeps the very best.

Practically everybody has read the story, "Rumple-Stilt-Skin," the story of the rich valley of the three brothers. When one drives down the lane leading to the rich, black land of the people settled in this section, the rich lands of the story book fade into mere oblivion. Peaches are ripe, the trees are bending down with fruit, the fields are loaded down with their burden, and nobody has to worry about a fertilizer bill in the fall.

Mr. Woodley is one of the seven children who inherited from their father the original several thousand acres of land granted during the first settlement of this country. There still remains about 4,000 acres of the original land undivided, upon which stands a wealth of beautiful timber.

When Mr. Woodley's age is considered, it is remarkable how active and alert he is. He did not come from the stock of people that give up and wish to be taken care of by relatives. No, he is truly a gentleman of the farm.

Thirteen Members of Fire Department Attend Meet

Thirteen members of the Plymouth Fire Department attended the July quarterly session of the Eastern Carolina's firemen's Association, held in Greenville Tuesday night. The visiting firemen were entertained at the Rotary Club with a banquet. An excellent program was carried out, a number of interesting speeches having been delivered.

Those attending from Plymouth were: Jim Ausbon, Bob Tarkenton, J. B. McNair, F. C. Spruill, W. E. Waters, Alton Harrison, Wilmer Chesson, Carlyle Doughtie, Clair Wilson, P. G. Dixon, Miller Warren, C. L. Jackson, and R. A. Peele.

Revival Meeting Now in Progress at Rehoboth

Skinnerville, July 15.—The annual revival meeting is now in progress at Rehoboth M. P. church, with Rev. R. L. Hethcox, of Triplett, Va., assisting the pastor, Rev. J. C. Russell, with the preaching.

A good attendance is being had, and the meeting will continue through the week, closing Sunday night. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

Perseverance Lodge To Meet Tuesday Night

Perseverance Lodge, No. 59, held its regular weekly meeting here Tuesday night of this week, having conferred work in the first degree. One candidate is to be given the third degree next Tuesday night. All members of the lodge are urged to be present, and all visiting masons are cordially invited to attend.

The lodge is located in the Leggett building on Water Street.

Home Agent Announces Schedule for Next Week

Miss Pratt Covington, county home demonstration agent, announces that her schedule for next week will be as follows:

Monday, Plymouth; Tuesday, Pleasant Grove-Mackeys club; Wednesday, Swain; Thursday, Creswell; Friday, Alba; Saturday, curb market.

The garment trades are growing in North Carolina. More than 4,000 people are now employed in these industries.

INVENTS BRAND NEW WAR WHOOP

Lawrence Jones Finds Big Snake Coiled on Leg; And Did He Yell?

Lawrence Jones, well-known local young man, unexpectedly coined a new war whoop Wednesday night when a huge black snake coiled its slimy body about his leg. Mr. Jones and two friends, Claire Wilson and Miller Warren, were on a frog gigging expedition in a swamp between Plymouth and Roper Wednesday night when the snake took a fancy to Mr. Jones' leg.

Mr. Jones had shot the big snake, and it disappeared beneath the water. Thinking the reptile dead, he continued wading around in the water in quest of a hefty bull frog. Then, suddenly, he felt something gripping his leg. Glancing down, he saw the snake, and forthwith he let out a war whoop, the melody of which had never been heard in this section before. Hence, when Mr. Jones stopped running, the snake was gone.

MAKE RECKLESS DRIVERS PAY FOR DAMAGES BY CAR

New Law, Effective July 1, Would Fix Financial Responsibility

The new financial responsibility law for North Carolina, enacted by the 1931 legislature, went into effect July 1st. The new law aims to fix responsibility for reckless driving on the highways and secure the collection of damages where such damage results from careless or reckless driving. Heretofore owners of motor cars on the highways have been liable to damages by court action. It was simple enough to bring suit and collect if you won a judgment. But persons without financial responsibility could go on the road and do incalculable damage, and there was no recourse at law. The new law aims to get that class of people.

As presented by one of the insurance companies the provisions of the laws are as follows:

"The financial responsibility law pertaining to the operation of motor vehicles in the State of North Carolina, effective July 1, 1931, compels the commissioner of revenue to revoke the license and registrations of a person when a judgment in excess of \$100 has been rendered against such person, arising out of the use of a motor vehicle, where such judgment remains unpaid after 30 days unless such person shall furnish proof of his ability to respond in damages for future accidents.

"The failure on the part of operators to fulfill the requirements of this law will cause the commissioner of revenue to revoke their operating license and registration certificates, thereby depriving them of the privilege of operation a motor vehicle.

If any person fails to return operator's license and registration certificates, thereby depriving them of the privilege of operating a motor vehicle, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000.

"If any person shall forge any operator's license and registration certificates after failure to prove financial security, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000.

"If any person shall forge any evidence of financial security he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$1,000, or not more than 30 days in jail, or both.

The law is designed to protect the public from operators of motor vehicles who are unable to pay for the damage caused by an accident. After a judgment has been rendered, and is not paid, the owner must present evidence of financial responsibility before he can again operate his automobile. Financial responsibility may be established in the following manner: A certificate of insurance issued by an insurance company licensed to do business in the state, certifying that the owner carries public liability insurance of not less than \$5,000 for one injured person and not less than \$10,000 for two or more persons injured in any one accident, and property damage insurance of not less than \$1,000 for damage to property.

A bond of either a surety company or two persons sureties.

Robert L. Fritts of Tyro township in Davidson county harvested 507 bushels of barley from seven acres of land.

DISTRICT AGENT PAULINE SMITH WILL BE JUDGE

Score Cards To Be Given Ten Members of Party

Cars from all sections of the county will today wind their way up and down the highways, carrying interested garden lovers to the various homes that have been entered in the yard improvement contest.

The contest starts promptly at 2 o'clock at the home of Mrs. W. H. Harrison on the Long Acre Road. The contest will end around 5 o'clock at the home of Mrs. Ethel Smith in Creswell.

Miss Pauline Smith, district agent, will be the principal speaker and judge for the afternoon. Ten persons will be selected out of the crowd and given score cards. These scores will not count materially toward the prize, but will have some weight.

The yards will be judged from the following standpoint: Attractiveness, 25 points; livability, protection from sun, wind, dust, 5 points; privacy, gained through planting, 5 points; facilities for rest, recreation, 10 points; utility, 20 points; condition and maintenance, trees shrubs, flowers, and vines, 5 points; lawn, 5 points; segregation of poultry and livestock 5; improvements made during contest; arrangement of new planting 5 points; selection of plants, 5 points; permanence of planting, 5 points; unsightly features eliminated, 5 points. Total, 100 points.

The winner will not be announced until the federation meeting in October at Roper. The contest does not close until October 1st, and a number of contestants will, no doubt, do much more improving during this time. This tour is, however, one of the most important determining factors of just who the winner will be.

Discharges of veterans may be invaluable. Urged to have them recorded at Courthouse; Charge Is Small.

DISCHARGES OF VETERANS MAY BE INVALUABLE

Urged To Have Them Recorded at Courthouse; Charge Is Small

Veterans of the World War should take every precaution to preserve their discharge certificates, for in years to come they will be invaluable if occasions arise in which proof of service would reflect to the interest of the veteran.

Washington County has provided a special set of permanent records in which discharges may be entered and preserved among other valuable papers of concern to the county. Considerable difficulty and unnecessary work has been encountered recently by those who have been active in obtaining hospitalization and other aid for veterans who had misplaced, destroyed, or lost their discharges, when if a copy of the discharge could have been obtained from county records the work would have been greatly simplified and the relief sought considerably expedited.

There is hardly a veteran who will not have occasion in the future to refer to his discharge for one reason or the other, and if the discharge is made a part of his county records the information desired may be obtained with little effort.

The register of deeds has custody of the book in which discharges may be recorded, and the fee for such registration is negligible—just 25 cents.

It is hoped that all veterans will avail themselves of this service furnished by Washington County, and that immediate steps will be taken to have their discharges properly recorded.

Pleasant Grove Ladies Aid in Regular Meet

Pleasant Grove, July 14.—The Ladies' Aid Society of Pleasant Grove held their regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. J. C. Tarkenton on Wednesday afternoon.

The meeting was opened with a reading of the Scripture by Miss Corinae Bell. This was followed by prayer and a song. Miss Myrtle Tarkenton read the minutes and roll call.

The business session was chiefly a discussion of ways and means of beautifying the church lawn and repairing the church building. A lawn party was planned to be held on the church lawn July 30th for the benefit of the church.

A large attendance was had, and a course of ice cream, cake, and mints was served by the hostess. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. T. W. Tarkenton.