

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.

VOLUME XLII—NUMBER 36

Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Friday, September 4, 1931

ESTABLISHED 1889

CONSIDER CUT IN TERM OF LOCAL SCHOOLS FRIDAY

Public Invited to Attend Special Meeting School Board Tonight

The Plymouth city school board will hold a special meeting at the high school auditorium here Friday night at 8 o'clock of this week, it was announced here yesterday. This meeting has been called by P. H. Darden, chairman of the board at the request of various citizens. The public is invited to attend.

The purpose of this special meeting is for discussing the advisability of curtailing the city schools from nine to eight months.

In discussing the situation here yesterday with a number of citizens who are in favor of reducing the school term from nine to eight months, the theory has been advanced that by lopping off one month the Plymouth district will be saved the special tax levy of 25 cents. There is a county-wide tax levy of 23 cents for operating the schools from six months to eight months, but the Plymouth district has a special 25 cents levy for operating the school for the ninth month.

These citizens who are in favor of the one month curtailment state that the eight months school term, of 32 weeks, is a standard term of school, which enable high school graduates to enter college without examination. And they contend that due to the depression, the taxpayers are entitled to all the relief they can get. They admit that it will curtail the salaries of the teachers, but then everybody else's salaries and wages have been curtailed, they say.

One man stated that the school was still owing the teachers for part of their salaries from last year, and what is the sense of employing the teachers for nine months, if the school is not able to pay the teachers for this length term?

Anyway, it is expected that the meeting Friday night, which is tonight, will prove a very interesting occasion. Members of the local school board are as follows: P. H. Darden, chairman; D. V. Clayton, J. S. Norman, O. H. Lyon, A. H. Stier, E. H. Liverman, and Dr. C. McGowan.

INTERESTING INFORMATION ON ROANOKE

(Williamston Enterprise)

Making a survey of the Roanoke River recently, Army engineers gained some interesting information having to do with the turbulent stream. Mr. Edmond Pendleton, jr., is making the survey of the stream from its source to the mouth. He is working under the direction of Major Gordon R. Young, who with Gerrard H. Mattles-principal engineer, are in charge of the survey.

In an effort to estimate the potential power and light values of the stream and to effect a control of high waters, Congress ordered the survey several months ago.

For 207 years back, Mr. Pendleton has procured data on the Roanoke. In 1771, five years before the Declaration of Independence was signed, the Roanoke reached its highest stage of the period, the engineer learned. The flood waters at that time would have put the present highway dam across the Roanoke swamps under more than 4 feet of water, probably. The second highest flood reported in the stream by the engineer was in November, 1877, more than 100 years after the highest known water. This high water, doing much damage in the low grounds bordering the stream, is known to the old people of this section as the great centennial freshet. Other high waters were reported in 1887, 1901, and July, 1919.

The highest water in the Roanoke since the road and bridge were built here was reported in 1923, when the water came within about one foot of overflowing the dam. While it is known that the 1771 freshet was higher than the one of 1877, its flood stage is not definitely known. It is certain, however, that the one 1877 would have covered the highway dam here with three feet of water.

Mr. Pendleton stated that they had found valuable data in the survey of the river, adding that it was one of the most turbulent streams in the entire country and that it carries a third more water than the historic old James River. High waters have flooded more than 100,000 acres of land between Weldon and Williamston at one time, according to estimates furnished by the Army engineer.

When the survey is completed, the Army engineering department will review the entire findings and make whatever recommendations are considered necessary to Congress in connection with flood control of the stream

All County Schools Start September 14

ENROLLMENT IS EXPECTED TO BE MUCH LARGER

Law As To Passing School Busses To Be Strictly Enforced This Year

The Washington County Public Schools will open Monday morning, September 14, James W. Norman, superintendent of public instruction, announced here yesterday. It is expected that the total enrollment for the county will exceed that of last year by a good percentage.

Final details for the opening have been completed, and it is expected that the schools will make an excellent showing during the first of the year.

Mr. Norman also stated that the State law requiring motorists to stop when a school bus is loading or taking on pupils on the highway will be rigidly enforced this year. A number of arrests were made last year, but scarcely any of these offenders were prosecuted. But this year the law will be enforced. Therefore, it is urged that all motorists desiring to keep out of the courts and avoid paying fines, observe this law to the letter.

It is a very dangerous thing for an automobile driver to dash by at full speed while a school bus is taking on or discharging pupils. Many fatal accidents to school pupils have occurred in the State, it is pointed out, due to motorists failing to obey this law.

SIGNS OF SCHOOL DAYS IN STOCKS AT STORES HERE

Tablets, Notebooks, Pencils Crayons, Etc. Being Displayed

With the approaching opening of the Plymouth city schools here Monday, the town is beginning to take on the appearance of school days once more. Practically all of the stores and shops are displaying various merchandise pertaining to school.

In sooth, it is an interesting adventure to do window shopping in Plymouth nowadays. Boys' and girls' clothing, suitable for school wear, are to be seen in practically all of the show windows of the stores, carrying wearing apparel, such as sweaters in bright colors, coats, suits, caps, shoes, dresses, raincoats, and so forth. Also school supplies, such as tablets, notebook, and paper, pencils, crayons, etc. Many of the older folks are poignantly reminded of their own school days once more, the happiest and most free of all days.

JNO. W. GARDNER DIES THURSDAY

Was Well Known Farmer Of Jamesville Section; Funeral Friday

John W. Gardner, 78 years old, and a farmer in the Jamesville section, died at his home there last Thursday from an attack of pneumonia. He had been in feeble health for more than six months, but during the greater part of that time he was able to be up and care for his duties about the home.

Funeral services were conducted from the home Friday afternoon by Rev. W. B. Harrington, and interment followed in the family burial ground on the Lloyd Gardner plantation, near by.

A tiller of the soil all his life, Mr. Gardner was highly esteemed by his friends and neighbors. He was a member of the Poplar Chapel church for almost a quarter of a century.

Twenty-two years ago he was married to Mrs. Estelle Senate, formerly Miss Estelle Holliday, of near Jamesville. She with four daughters, Mrs. Jesse Martin, Mrs. Eb Hardison, Mrs. Will Moore, and Mrs. Louis Hardison, all of near Jamesville, survive. He also leaves two step-sons, Messrs. Bruce Senate, of near Jamesville, and Mr. Clyde Senate, of New York.

W. L. House Opens New Grocery Store in Town

W. L. House, who formerly operated the Gold Star Store here, has opened a grocery store in the building located two doors below Swain's Filling Station on Highway No. 90. The name of this new grocery is "No. 90 Grocery Store."

Mr. House states that he intends to carry a full line of staple and fancy groceries and vegetables.

MRS. N. C. VAIL TELLS SUCCESS OF HER GARDEN

Has Sold Over \$90 Worth Of Vegetables So Far This Summer

By Mrs. N. C. VAIL
I began my garden in the late fall or early winter by mulching my asparagus bed and strawberry patch with stable manure, and broadcasting stable manure around in my cabbage. I set out cabbage plants the latter part of December, and onion sets in February. I also sowed some onion seed in March for onions this winter. As soon as possible I planted every green vegetable and fruit that can almost be planted, and I had splendid luck. On June 10 I planted more pole beans for a late crop, and also put in a few rows of corn. On August 10 I planted bunch beans, beets, turnips, rutabagas, carrots, parsnips, lettuce, and cabbage for a late fall crop. Early in September is really a fine time, and the correct time for planting lettuce if you want your lettuce to head up nicely. Plant it beside an outbuilding or some place where it will be protected, more or less.

I only used on bag of fertilizer, and have sold from January 1st to July 15th, \$91.10 worth of vegetables on the curb market out of my garden.

When we say "my garden," what a magic word that seems! The first habitation of man was in a garden. All the most beautiful romances have had their settings in a garden. The poets sing about a garden, and in the spring time our thoughts turn to the garden. We every one like to get out among the new turned earth and pick the first flower or sow some seeds. We love to watch the tiny plants grow into maturity, and we smile with joy when we have our first new vegetables for our table. The word "garden" has even more enchantment when we can look upon it as a source for some ready cash; we feel then that it is a magic word, indeed.

CHINA SUFFERS FROM FLOODS

250,000 Lose Lives and Over Million Homeless, Late Reports State

More than one million people are homeless and 250,000 others are believed to have lost their lives in recent floods inundating large sections of China.

Uncertainty still veiled this week the extent of the disaster in Kiangsu Province, where eight miles of dykes along the Grand Canal collapsed. An aerial survey led authorities to believe early Chinese estimates vastly exaggerated the number of deaths.

Nevertheless, it was still feared that many hundreds, and perhaps thousands, died in Kaoyu and other nearby cities when dykes collapsed last Tuesday and Wednesday. In the countryside villages perhaps even a greater toll was taken.

First incomplete reports of deaths in Kiangsu Province were received as comparatively stable conditions returned to the Wuhan cities of Hankow, Hanyang and Wuchang. Water from the Yangtze still inundated the streets in these cities, however.

The Wuhan gendarmier headquarters estimated 250,000 persons drowned or succumbed to disease, starvation, or exposure in the three latter cities. The figures may be accepted as official and comparatively reliable.

The gendarmier census showed that 163,000 houses either collapsed or were ruined past repair, rendering 782,000 persons, half the population of the three cities, homeless and destitute. This total was lessened by deaths and the evacuations of those able to flee, but 500,000 remain there destitute and helpless.

Mr. Liverman is now in his new store, the building formerly occupied by W. H. Hampton and Son, just across the street from his old stand. The building has been renovated and repaired, and Mr. Liverman has modern department store in every respect.

Mr. Liverman is celebrating the moving into his new quarters with a big sale, which starts today (Friday), and is expected to eclipse any sale he has heretofore staged. For further details, study his double-page ad, which appears elsewhere in this paper.

Illinois Man Is Interested Spectator at Own Funeral

Benton, Ill., Aug. 30.—Surrounded by relatives and friends, Stephen R. Patton today attended his own funeral. Flowers were there in profusion, but there was no casket.

The funeral oration was delivered by the Rev. John B. Maulding, of McLeansboro.

Today was Patton's birthday anniversary. When he learned recently that relatives planned a celebration, he suggested, "It's better to hand flowers to the living rather than to the dead," and said

SAYS IT IS NOT HARD TO GROW GOOD GARDEN

Mrs. John Singleton Also Enthusiastic Over Steam Pressure Cooker

By Mrs. JOHN SINGLETON
In the spring we all went to Greenville to a demonstration on canning on the steam pressure cooker. Meat was canned, and I saw at once the advantages of owning a cooker, so I came home determined to get one.

As soon as I got home I began making preparations to get that canner. To fully convince myself I borrowed the federation cooker, which was bought by all the clubs of the county, and tried it out. I immediately got our home agent to order my pressure cooker.

I have had a nice garden and have a nice variety of vegetables growing in my garden. I have sold quite a bit of produce out of the garden on the curb market, and am planning to put in a nice fall supply of vegetables.

I only used on bag of fertilizers, and it would be hard to estimate the cost of the garden, taking it as a whole, but it has meant lots to me and my family. I have canned a nice supply of vegetables and fruits for winter use.

Our club members have all been canning and the number of jars for the club now totals something around 700 quarts. Our club is small.

This season has been fine for a garden, and I think that every member is storing away as much as possible, for we may not have this good luck other year. Then, too, I think every member is taking advantage of the live-at-home idea, and really doing their best to carry out this plan.

HOLD REVIVAL AT PLEASANT GROVE

Rev. E. W. Downum Will Be Preacher; Meeting Begins Sunday

The revival meeting will begin at Pleasant Grove Sunday, September 6, and the services are to continue through the second Sunday. There will be two services, both morning and night, the first Sunday.

Rev. E. W. Downum, pastor of Belhaven and Pantego circuit, will do the preaching, assisted by Rev. J. Bascom Hurley, the pastor, who will also lead the singing.

Old Time Hitching Rack Is Built by Local Store

Hal Williford has erected a hitching rack in the lot to the rear of his store here for the convenience of farmers who drive mules and horses to town. The rack is a long one, and Mr. Williford says that many mules can be hitched to it.

In the old days, before the coming of the automobile, every town, as well as the different stores, maintained their hitching racks for the use of the farmers. But as the automobile advanced in usage, the hitching posts and racks have gone the way of the top buggy. But now it is coming back.

E. H. Liverman Opens New Store With Sale

E. H. Liverman is now in his new store, the building formerly occupied by W. H. Hampton and Son, just across the street from his old stand. The building has been renovated and repaired, and Mr. Liverman has modern department store in every respect.

Mr. Liverman is celebrating the moving into his new quarters with a big sale, which starts today (Friday), and is expected to eclipse any sale he has heretofore staged. For further details, study his double-page ad, which appears elsewhere in this paper.

Nathan H. Spruill Opens Law Office in Roper

Roper, Sept. 1.—Attorney Nathan H. Spruill has opened a law office in the building formerly occupied by Dr. B. F. Halsley.

Mr. Spruill was for several years connected with Pou and Pou, and Douglass and Douglass, of Raleigh, two of the leading law firms of the State. Mr. Spruill was admitted to the bar in January, 1929. He is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Spruill, the former who was well known throughout eastern Carolina. Friends of Mr. Spruill wish him the greatest of success.

Criminal Term of Superior Court Held Here This Week

Everything Set for Opening Local Schools Next Monday

The Plymouth city school building has been swept, cleaned, and dusted and everything is in readiness for the opening of school here Monday morning, September 7th. Students are requested to be at the school building by 8:30 o'clock in the morning.

Superintendent Hicks is of the opinion that this should prove one of the best years during the entire history of the school. And pupils are urged to make up their

their minds to start the new school year off right, by buckling right down to hard study at the very beginning.

Parents can also help to make the school work a success this year, by requiring their children to spend a certain period of time in study at home each day. This is absolutely essential if the pupil is to do his best work, authorities have pointed out.

MANY HUNTERS TAKE TO WOODS FOR SQUIRRELS

Few Hunting Licenses Sold So Far, Game Warden States

Scores of Washington County and Plymouth citizens donned hunting costumes Tuesday morning and went forth into the woods in quest of squirrels, this being the opening day of the season.

Dr. Claudius McGowan and D. V. Clayton, of the Branch Banking and Trust Company, were among the sportsmen who went after the squirrels in earnest Tuesday. In due course of time, Doc McGowan returned to town with the bag limit as testimony of his trigger finger and skilled eye for spotting squirrels.

Whereas, Mr. Clayton, it is understood, returned with only mosquito bites. However, the majority of the hunters were fortunate in bagging several squirrels each.

According to Harry Stell, game warden, the sale of hunting licenses has not been very large in this county as yet. But it is expected that by the fifteenth of the month, the sales will reach a high figure, as the deer season opens on this date. Already various sportsmen are making plans for a number of big deer hunts.

MRS. SULLIVAN DIES FRIDAY

Lived at Home of Daughter Near Here; Funeral Held Sunday

Mrs. Laura V. Sullivan, 63 years of age, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Golden Simpson, three miles from Plymouth, Friday night at 9 o'clock, following a prolonged illness of about two years.

Funeral services were held at the home Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, with Rev. Conley Greer, pastor of the First Christian church of Plymouth, officiating. Burial was made in the old family cemetery, near Dardens.

The service was largely attended, and the floral offerings were very beautiful.

Besides her daughter, Mrs. Simpson, the deceased is survived by two sons, both of Baltimore.

Traveling Man Says Hotels Are Not Crowded Any More

Hotels, too, have undergone considerable changes during the present depression, according to a traveling man who stopped at the Brinkley Hotel here one night this week. This gentleman stated that back in the good old days, it was necessary for one to send in their reservations ahead to hotels, if they expected to get a room. Several years ago, this was true of most all towns, large and small.

But now it is entirely different. No need to waste money by telephoning ahead for reservations. All hotels now according to this man, always have plenty of rooms available on a minute's notice.

Warden Urges That All Sportsmen Observe This New Ruling Relative to Shooting Doves and Act Accordingly

Mrs. Johnston To Begin Music Class September 9

Mrs. Laura Smith Johnston announced here today that the opening of her class in piano and pipe organ at her studio on Main Street would be Wednesday, September 9. Mrs. Johnston stated that hours would be arranged to suit the convenience of students.

LARGE NUMBER CASES ARE TRIED BY JUDGE GRADY

Slayer of Aubrey Bell Gets Sentence of From 10 To 15 Years

Washington County criminal court convened here Monday morning with Judge Henry A. Grady, of Clinton, presiding, and Solicitor Don Gilliam, of Tarboro, representing the State.

Following the selection and impelling of the grand jury, Judge Grady delivered a short but very impressive charge.

Willie Howcott, 22-year-old negro, charged with murder in the recent shooting of Aubrey Bell, 15-year-old son of Pete Bell, well-known local colored attorney, was tried and found guilty of second-degree murder. He was sentenced to the State prison at hard labor from 10 to 15 years.

The case of LeeRoy Harris, well-known local young man, who was charged with seduction, was not fought out in court. A nol pros was taken in this case, upon the defendant, with the approval of the judge, consenting to a judgment in a bastardy proceeding, whereby DeElla Davenport, the prosecutrix, received the sum of \$500 in full settlement of all claims against the defendant.

John Mack Pettiford was tried and found guilty of violating the prohibition laws and given 15 months in jail, to be assigned to the State roads.

B. F. Twiddy and Annie Mae Davenport, charged with immorality, were tried and found not guilty. Twiddy was also tried on charges of violating the prohibition laws, a nol pros with leave having been taken on this count. Ernest Bell, 17-year-old colored youth, charged with a criminal assault upon a young girl, was tried and found guilty of an assault upon a female. He was sentenced to 12 months on the roads.

Fred McCloud, 22-year-old colored man, pleaded guilty to an assault with a deadly weapon and was sentenced to three years on the roads. James Moore and Caleb Moore, young white men, were found guilty on charges of entering and larceny. Both were given two years at hard labor in the State prison.

J. J. Johnson was tried on worthless check charges, and judgment was suspended on payment of the costs. Waldo Ransom was tried on assault charges and found not guilty.

E. Joseph and R. Mitchell, charged with fraud, were tried and prayer for judgment was continued upon payment of the cost.

Ed Blount was tried on two counts, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon and carrying a concealed weapon. He was found guilty of the C. C. W. charge, and given six months on the roads.

A few other minor cases were tried and disposed of, and a number of important cases were continued until the next term of court.

The grand jury was composed of the following: J. P. Oliver, W. C. Moore, H. A. Williford, W. E. Sitterson, H. E. Beam, A. R. Modlin, R. L. Tetterton, C. L. Winham, S. Fletcher, W. C. Spruill, W. W. Phelps, T. E. Knowles, J. O. Highsmith, foreman; B. M. Holton, L. W. Liverman, L. C. Spruill, C. D. Swain and D. C. Oliver.

GET RULING ON DOVE SEASON

Open From September 1 to 30 and From November 20 to January 31

Harry Stell, game warden of Washington and Turrell Counties, stated here yesterday that under a recent ruling of the Biological Survey, as requested by the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, the season to shoot doves in North Carolina is as follows:

The season opened on September 1, and closes September 30th, and then again opens on November 20th and closes January 31.

Doves are migratory wild fowl, it is pointed out, and therefore to change the season in North Carolina required a ruling by the Biological Survey to make a change in season valid in the State of North Carolina.

Schedule of Prices at Curb Market Saturday

Curb market prices	
Beans, per pound	05c
Peas, per quart	15c
Corn, per dozen	15c
Eggs, No. 1	25c
Eggs, No. 2	24c
Young chickens	23c
Dressed broilers	30c
Apples, per peck	15c
Grapes, per quart	08c
Butter, per pound	30c
Huckleberries	15c