

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

# THE ROANOKE BEACON

AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

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

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## TARBORO MAN IS PUT AT HEAD CWA WORK IN COUNTY

### J. T. Gibbs Appointed Civil Works Administrator, Starting Jan. 10

Why a man from Edgecombe County was appointed to the chief office of the CWA in Washington County is the thing that is not quite understood here.

Some think that J. T. Gibbs, of Tarboro, was sent here as emergency relief and Civil Works Administrator, because it would bring into the county a man who would not lean either way and could mete out the relief work in an impartial way.

Others are of the opinion that the government officials perhaps did not have an applicant for a position of this kind who could fill it, or rather there was not a man in this county that could handle the job. But both of these ideas are probably wrong.

When this emergency relief was started here, Mrs. W. C. Brewer, who was in charge of the welfare work here was appointed as Federal administrator for this county and has held the job since its origination and is giving it up now on account of other duties.

Below is the text of the letter in full from Roy M. Brown, technical supervisor of the State Emergency Relief and the CWA, to J. T. Gibbs at Tarboro, with a copy being sent here to Mrs. Brewer:

"This is to confirm your appointment as Emergency Relief and Civil Works Administrator for Washington County. Miss Ward (supervisor of this district) informs me that you are to go to the county on Wednesday, January 10. You will have full charge of the Emergency Relief and Civil Works program.

"Mrs. Brewer will remain superintendent of public welfare and will perform all the ordinary duties of that office. She understands that she is to be relieved of the duties which you are to assume and is in agreement with this plan."

Relief from the duties of the CWA program and emergency relief for Mrs. Brewer only means that she will not have these duties to divide her time with that as superintendent of public welfare and she has never received a cent more for her work in this capacity.

Mrs. Brewer's job is safe with the county in the welfare department for two years, as she was included in the budget for this length of time, and her salary is about \$84 a month, with about \$40 more supplied for travel expenses.

## DRY FORCES TO MEET JANUARY 16

### Object Is Organization of Permanent Group To Continue Work

Roper.—Below follows a statement issued to the press by Rev. R. E. Atkinson, pastor of the Methodist church here, and chairman of the dry forces in Washington County.

"The United Dry Forces of North Carolina will assemble in a State-wide conference at Greensboro on January 16, for the purpose of perfecting a permanent organization to continue in North Carolina a constructive program of education in favor of temperance and against the evils of alcohol.

"The county and other local units of the organization that fought to keep North Carolina dry in the recent election desire to conserve the benefits of the recent campaign and to continue their efforts to keep legalized liquor out of North Carolina, and to improve the enforcement of our present prohibition laws.

"Many local units have already become permanent, and it is anticipated that the Greensboro meeting on January 16 will set up a permanent state-wide organization.

"All persons in North Carolina interested in the promotion of temperance are invited to attend the conference, and all members of the central committee, all candidates, county chairmen, and managers of the United Dry Forces are particularly urged to be present."

**Special Showing of "Wild Boys of Road"**

The management of the New Theatre has issued invitations for a special showing on Monday morning, January 15, at 10 o'clock of "Wild Boys of the Road." Those invited include the press, Mayor and Mrs. Gilbert Davis, all members of the woman's club, Principal and Mrs. E. H. Hicks, school board trustee, and all of the ministers and their wives.

## Thank Mr. Johnston Ward for Donation

Members of the Major Charles Louis Latham chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy wish to take this method of expressing their appreciation to Mr. Johnston Ward for the check of \$10.00 sent them through Mrs. Addie L. Brinkley as a Christmas gift to be applied on Confederate monument fund. This is the first donation to be given toward this worthy cause, and it is with heartfelt gratitude that the chapter extends to Mr. Ward its most sincere thanks.

## FUNERAL IS HELD SUNDAY FOR MR. SAM W. BEASLEY

### Large Number Present for Last Rites at Methodist Church Here

The Methodist Church was crowded with people Sunday morning who witnessed the last rites for Samuel Wesley Beasley, 76 years of age, who died Thursday afternoon at 1:30, never rallying from an attack of heart trouble that seized him three hours before. Rev. R. R. Grant officiated.

Friends from all over the county were among the crowd that attended the church rites with a much larger gathering at his grave at the old Baptist church site in town. A beautiful floral offering was contributed by friends, and the massive heap of flowers literally covered the casket.

Mr. Beasley was born near Mackeys August 23, 1858, and died at his home on Washington Street January 4, 1934. Fifty-two years ago he married Miss Hattie Fagan, who, with two daughters, Mrs. J. L. Hayes and Mrs. E. R. Jackson, and one son, Cecil Beasley, of Charlotte, survive the deceased.

While a young man, Mr. Beasley became affiliated with the Methodist church here, and during his life he served as trustee and steward and was a loyal member of the Sunday school, in which department he took much interest, being present every Sunday when physically able.

Upwards of 50 years ago Mr. Beasley started in the drayage business in Plymouth, and with his horse and wagon, and later, with his motor truck was a familiar figure on the streets of Plymouth, and was known by practically every one.

## HORSE AND MULE PRICES TO GO UP

### Secretary of Association Is Advising Farmers To Buy Now

"Men who need horses or mules for next spring's work should buy them at once, as prices are practically certain to advance from \$20 to \$40 per head between now and April 1st," said Wayne Dinsmore, secretary of the Horse Association of America, in an address at Chicago December 6th.

"Every available horse and mule old enough to work will be at work in harness next spring," he continued, "and a great many two-year-old colts will also be broken and put into work, although it is not customary nor desirable to work young animals until they are three years old. The shortage of work animals, however, and the urgent need for cash is inducing a good many farmers in the principal horse and mule producing states to sell off some of their older animals and put the two years olds into service, especially where they are large, well grown and vigorous.

"This is feasible, particularly on the farms where it has been a set policy to raise enough colts each year to permit of selling the older animals at five or six years of age; for by crowding the colts from the time they are born until they are two years of age they will weigh from 900 to 1,200 pounds, even as two year olds, and can be broken and put to work.

The scarcity of work horses and mules, which has been increasing for several years, and which has been apparent to men thoroughly familiar with the horse business, became evident to dealers who had to buy horses last spring, as they found it more and more difficult to buy animals for resale. Many buyers report that they have to drive two or three times as far to purchase a carload of horses or mules and they also have to pay from \$15 to \$20 more for them than they did a year ago."

## Services at Episcopal Church Here Sunday

Services will be held at the Grace Episcopal church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, with Rev. Sidney J. Matthews, rector of the church officiating. Every one is urged to attend.

## HALF FAMILIES IN COUNTY ARE HOME OWNERS

### 53.7 Per Cent of White People Own Homes; 28.9 Per Cent Colored

Almost half of the families in Washington County own their homes, it was learned today from statistics revealed in the News Letter, a bi-weekly publication of the extension division of the University of North Carolina, with S. H. Hobbs, jr., responsible for the tabulation.

The records proved that there were 2,294 families in this county, which includes white and colored residents; and to be exact, 48.5 per cent, or about 1,112 families, that were living in their own dwellings. This does not mention as to how many were farms or town dwellings, but it is enough to note that they are landowners.

The tabulation reveals that 53.7 per cent of the white people own their homes, while on the other hand, only 38.9 per cent of the colored residents live on and in their own property. But, then, this points out that the negro race has more home-owners than is generally considered the case.

The sad fact of these figures is that in many cases they mislead, because some people live in homes registered in their names, but really are heavily encumbered by mortgage or otherwise, and thus these figures cannot be construed to be entirely accurate.

It is thought by the tabulators that in the state as a whole about half of the homes occupied by owners are mortgaged or otherwise encumbered by debt. However, this is not definite, because the ratio these financial entanglements are not known.

It is conservative to estimate that about half of the white people in the state own their homes, while less than a third of the colored residents are real property owners, and this class presents the pitiful plight of the tenant farmer, whose chances for home ownership are but a little brighter.

Negroes are probably in the majority of the 165,000 families in the state who live in towns with a population of 2,500 or more, and also who live just outside of the town limits but not on farms, and are classed as rural non-farm population.

"It appears from the statistics," said Mr. Hobbs, "that negroes have a better chance to rise to home ownership in the small towns and in the suburbs of towns and cities than either on farms or in cities."

## MRS. L. H. RITTER DIED RECENTLY

### Was Former Resident of Plymouth; Died in Newport News

Friends in Washington County were saddened to learn of the recent death of Mrs. Leslie Harrison Ritter, an executive of the Virginia State School for Colored Deaf and Blind Children at Newport News, Va., who was a former resident of Plymouth.

Mrs. Ritter was the daughter of the late Isaac F. and Mrs. Mary Johnston Harrison, of this county. She was born in 1879 in New Bern. She numbered among her friends in Plymouth Mrs. W. H. Hampton and the L. P. Horntahl family. She was a niece of the late Capt. Stuart Johnson.

She was graduated from the North Carolina School for the Deaf in 1894. She lost her hearing early in life as the result of cerebral meningitis. Early in life she joined the Grace Episcopal church here, and is remembered today by many of the communicants.

She was married to William C. Ritter, now superintendent of the school, and together they founded the school. Now, after 26 years, the institution is a monument to her work with the deaf and blind colored children of sound mind and body in Virginia.

## M. H. Haire Dies At Home Near Creswell

Moun Tabor.—Funeral services were held at his home near Creswell for M. H. Haire, who died January 2 as the result of heart disease, from which he was a chronic sufferer, being confined to his bed much of the time in recent months.

The funeral was held next day, and he was interred in a family burying ground near his home, with the Rev. Roy Respass, Christian minister, officiating. A large crowd attended and a large floral offering was contributed.

Mr. Haire was 74 years of age at the time of his death. For years he had been a member of the Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church and also the Charitable Brotherhood, with the latter organization taking part in the funeral.

Surviving Mr. Haire are two sons, J. E. and J. W. Haire, both of Washington County.

## Unemployed Required To Renew All Applications

All unemployed in Washington County who have made application for employment since the opening of the office, but who are not actually at work are required to renew their applications during the month of January, it was announced by Luther R. Ausbon, manager.

This work is now going forward rapidly. Names of all applicants who do not renew their applications during January, after notification, will be considered as having found jobs.

## STATE'S COTTON ACREAGE FIXED FOR NEXT YEAR

### Farmers Will Be Asked To Hold This Year's Crop To 869,000 Acres

North Carolina cotton farmers will plant a little less than 869,000 acres to the crop in 1934 if they meet the request of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

At a meeting of county farm agents held at State College on December 28, plans for the new cotton campaign to begin soon were outlined by Dean I. O. Schaub and Charles A. Sheffield of the Agricultural Extension Service. They explained that the tentative goal of reduction in this State next season is 580,000 acres under the five-year average from 1928 to 1932. During that base period, the State planted an average of 1,449,000 acres. A reduction of 40 per cent means that only 869,000 acres will be planted in the State this year.

To secure this reduction the AAA is offering a rental payment of 3 1-2 cents a pound on the average production of the land during the years from 1928 to 1932. In some instances, this rental payment is more than the land is worth on the open market. But in addition, explained Mr. Schaub, there will be a parity payment next fall on that part of a grower's cotton which is consumed within the United States.

This means that the parity payment will be 40 per cent of any grower's production and that a payment of at least one cent a pound is guaranteed. Dean Schaub also stated that a sufficient number of acres must be offered to the Secretary of Agriculture by January 31 to make the plan effective. Otherwise none of the contracts will be accepted and the cotton grower may be left to his own devices this year.

"This means that we must sign the contracts as quickly as we can to secure all the government aid we can," said the Dean.

## TEACHERS HOLD MEETING HERE

### Fourth Meeting of Term Is Held in School Here Last Thursday

The fourth monthly meeting of the Washington County Teachers' Association was held in the Plymouth High School Building Thursday evening, with a large number of members of the teaching staff in this county present.

Following reports of committees, Misses Sadie Davenport and Carolyn Brooks spoke 5 minutes each on "The Means by Which the Classroom Teacher May Study Differences," with Miss Hazel Craddock discussing in the same length of time the subject, "Master List of All Factors Which Affect Pupils Adversely."

"Difference in Technique of Teaching as Influenced by Grade Levels," was the topic for a 5-minute talk by Miss Irene Johnson, while Mrs. Eva S. Bateman and B. G. O'Brien recounted some "Illustrations of How a Teacher May Make Her Work Both Interesting and Instructive," with E. H. Hicks leading in the round-table discussions of problems relating to the schools.

C. H. Rabon and Miss Hazel Bowers spoke on "Materials Suitable for Reading Circle Work (grade levels)" while Mrs. W. E. Spruill and Miss Thelma Getsinger spoke briefly on "Gradation of Pictures To Be Used (Valuation)."

These monthly meetings of the teachers in the county are proving interesting and helpful to those who attend, and James W. Norman, superintendent of public instruction, is urgent in requesting that all of the teachers attend.

## Ed Vail Jailed For Contempt of Court

Ed Vail was sent to jail Monday for 30 days by Judge Walter Small, of Elizabeth City, who was presiding at the January term of Washington County Superior Court that opened here Monday on a charge of contempt.

Mr. Vail had been tried and fined in a case concerning a man he was said to have attacked in defense of his sister. When the sentence was passed Mr. Vail made some derogatory remarks in open court, and Judge Small ordered him locked up immediately.

This is said by court attendants to have been the first time in Washington County's history that a man has been jailed for contempt in superior court.

## ALL MERCHANTS ARE REQUIRED TO FILE REPORT

### Have Until 15th of January To Make Report on Sales Tax

John D. Langston, jr., deputy commissioner of the Department of Revenue, having in charge the sales tax work in this territory, calls attention to the sales tax law, which requires that every merchant who is registered under the sales tax act must file a return as of the last day of December, 1933.

Under the sales tax law merchants who have made monthly returns are required to file a monthly return for the month of December, those who have made a quarterly return on October 1st are required to file returns covering the business since that date; those who have filed no returns are required to make returns covering business and sales since July 1st, 1933; if a merchant has made no returns at all he is required to file a return showing this fact.

This return on the part of the merchants in this locality is a necessary feature of the sales tax law and every merchant in the territory will be expected to make his return covering that period. Failure of the merchants to make a return for this period has no legal excuse and heavy penalties are attached by law for failure of the merchants to make these returns.

Under the act, the merchant has until the 15th day of January to make the return. The time fixed by law is mandatory and merchants failing to comply with the act in this respect will necessarily be held responsible for their failure to make return. A complete check-up of all merchants in this territory will be made before the end of the month, and the deputy commissioner here has the direct responsibility of seeing that every return is filed. Merchants failing to make a return will be held responsible for their failure to comply with the law.

Blanks will be mailed to every merchant on the list and complete cooperation of all merchants is required."

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## Minister Performs Three Marriages in Succession

Rev. T. F. Davenport, of the Mount Tabor section, has the distinction of performing three marriages in succession on the evening of December 23. Mr. Davenport is a justice of the peace and a minister also.

The three couples married on the same night follow: Odell Ambrose to Pearl Davenport; Jessie Harrington to Ira Phelps; David Furlough to Annie Phelps.

## FIRE DESTROYS DWELLING HERE MONDAY NIGHT

### Home of Herman Jackson Is Completely Burned; Loss Is Around \$1,000

Fire originating from an unknown source completely destroyed the home of Herman Jackson here Monday night, causing a damage estimated at close to \$1,000.

None of the members of the family were at home when the blaze started inside of the house and spread quickly over the dwelling. Mr. Jackson could think of no way the fire could have originated as he had been away from the dwelling for some time when the fire was discovered.

A filling station and a log cabin at the front of the dwelling, which was located near Brinkley's baseball park, were not burned, as neighbors and others bent their energy to saving these two buildings. Furniture in the building was destroyed, not an article being saved.

Harry Gurkin discovered the flaming building while riding by on the highway and turned in the alarm. But the roof had fallen in and the damage to the dwelling was done before the firemen arrived, and they joined in the efforts to save the nearby buildings. There was no hydrant near by.

In addition to the furniture and the dwelling, Mr. Jackson lost \$65 in bills that were in the house when it was burned to the ground. It is understood that he had \$300 insurance on the house and \$200 insurance on his furniture. Mr. Jackson returned home in time to see the flames finishing their destruction.

## ASK LANDLORDS REGISTER NEEDS

### Those Desiring Work on Farms Also Urged To Register Here

Luther R. Ausbon, manager of the Washington County re-employment office announces this his office is now ready to register landlords and farmers who are in need of farm labor of any kind. Likewise, families desiring to rent a farm and unemployed farm labor are urged to register.

Families who left farms for work in towns or factories and are now interested in going back to the farm are urged, Mr. Ausbon said, to register and give the government a chance to help them find the kind of employment they prefer.

There may be some families applying for farm placement who do not have enough food and clothing to "run" them until the crop is made. Under certain conditions, provision will be made to extend help to such families, he said.

## Unusual Programs At Local Theatres

"Saturday's Millions," will open on Thursday for a two-day run. The cast includes too many gridiron and screen stars to mention here, headed by Robert Young, Leila Hyams, Johnny Mack Brown and the All-American football team. Also a two-reel comedy and a Silly Symphony.

You've never laughed so hard and long as you will on Monday and Tuesday watching Eddie Cantor caper thru Flo Ziegfeld's great comedy spectacle. See him in his best all-Technicolor musical comedy. There will be continuous shows, beginning at 2 o'clock. Also serial and "Radio Round-Up."

Monday presents a one-day play only, "Wild Boys of the Road," a picture every father and mother, sister and brother should see. Fox News and a cartoon complete the offering. Tuesday, showing only one day, brings to us the clever mystery story of the year, "Solitaire Man," with Herbert Marshall, Mary Boland, and Lionel Atwell heading the well-selected cast. Also Laurel and Hardy comedy.

"The Gold Companions," from the novel by J. B. Priestly, will play one day only, Wednesday. A trip thru some of the studios of Hollywood and a comedy complete the program.

## MAN IS SHOT IN LEGS RESULT OF SERIES ERRORS

### Went to Work Too Early; Employer Thought He Was Burglar

Repeated robberies of his store in the Pleasant Grove community has the trigger finger of J. C. Tarkenton itching—and Charlie Bailey has the shooting ability of Mr. Tarkenton to thank that he is no worse injured than he is today.

Mr. Bailey was engaged as a mechanic to repair a tractor that was at the rear of the Tarkenton store. So many business matters crowded his mind that Mr. Tarkenton forgot he had employed Mr. Bailey to begin work on the tractor early Saturday morning.

In the course of events Mr. Bailey awoke and heard the roosters crowing. Looking out he found the moon shining brightly, in fact so brightly that he thought day was dawning. So he gathered his tools and went to the tractor to begin work.

About midnight Mr. Tarkenton was awakened by the steady reports of the clanking of tools, and the first thing that he thought of was that some one was breaking into the rear of his store, as the noise came from that direction.

Grabbing his pistol, he went to the porch and yelled. No answer came but the staccato reports of some one tinkering with machinery continued, and Mr. Tarkenton interpreted this as boards being ripped from the rear of his store building.

Then the fireworks began. He fired his pistol in the direction of the tractor and the rear window of the store. Still continued the clinking noise. He fired five times. And the clinking of the metals continued.

Laying aside his pistol he reached for his shotgun. Waiting a few minutes he saw the figure of the man as he left the tractor and came into view. Taking steady aim, he emptied a load of shot into the legs of Bailey, who yelled at the top of his voice.

Recognizing the voice as that of Mr. Bailey, Mr. Tarkenton ran to his aid. It was the intention of Mr. Tarkenton to shoot low and hit the victim in the legs, which he did. This probably saved the life of Mr. Bailey.

It all came about through neither knowing the circumstances of the other. Mr. Bailey thought it was dawning day, and Mr. Tarkenton in the press of matters when he had retired forgot that he had engaged Mr. Bailey for the tractor work.

Mr. Bailey's legs were peppered with shot, but as the scattered shot entered his legs no serious injury was incurred.

## ASK LOAN FOR RIVER BRIDGE

### Application for \$342,000 Is Now Before Authorities At Raleigh

Application has been made to the administrator of public works for a loan of \$342,000 by the Roanoke River Bridge Company, to build bridges and causeway across the Roanoke River and tributaries near the town of Plymouth to establish a line of communication for vehicles between the north and south sides of Albemarle Sound.

From the creation of the State High Way Commission there has been a public and insistent demand for a line of communication across the waters that separate this territory. On account of the width of the sound and storm hazards, it is believed that the high cost and risk would make bridging of the sound prohibitive, and that the solution of the situation is to cross the Roanoke River as near its mouth as practicable where the cost is lowest and where storm hazard is reduced to a minimum.

This application is pending before the State Advisory Board and will be forwarded to Washington in due course for their consideration.

If this project is approved and the funds appropriated, it is generally believed that it will be a long step in the progress and development of north eastern North Carolina.

## Home Agent Announces Schedule for Next Week

The following schedule for next week has been announced by Miss Eugenia Patterson, home agent: Monday afternoon, Suppernoon. Tuesday afternoon, Cherry. Wednesday afternoon, Albemarle. Thursday afternoon, Wenona. Friday afternoon, new club to be organized in Mount Tabor community. Come!

All club members are asked to bring a note book and pencil to each club meeting during the year.