

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 a columns a latch-key to Washington County homes.

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## TAX REDUCTION BY VIRTUE SALES TAX OVER \$22,000

### Sales Tax Collections in County for First Six Months, \$6,326

Sales tax collections in Washington County for the six months period between July 1 and January 30 amounted to \$6,326, it was learned here today from A. J. Maxwell, Commissioner of Revenue and Harry McMullan, director of Assessments and Collections.

The indicated yield of sales taxes for one year in this county is given at \$12,652. Of course, this is judged by the first six months and no consideration is taken of the fact that poor business seasons will come in the period from February to August.

Tax relief afforded by the last legislature in enactment of the sales tax and other measures adopted by them affords property tax reduction of \$34,823 in this county. As the indicated sales tax return for this county is figured at \$12,652 then this leaves a property tax reduction in excess of sales tax collections made and anticipated for the year of \$22,171.

This property tax reduction is afforded by the removal of the 15-cent levy for schools, elimination of levies for current expenses for districts, county-wide and special charter in excess of sales tax paid by this county based on the first six months collections.

Included on property tax reductions for the year of 1933 are four subjects of tax levy which were actual levies in 1932 as follows: 15-cent State-wide levy; current expense for special charter schools; current expense for special tax districts; current expense for county-wide levies.

Under the act of the 1933 Legislature the first three were entirely eliminated while the last item was eliminated except as to charges for maintenance of plant and fixed charges. Fines, forfeitures, dog taxes and three-fourths of poll taxes are received by the county to take care of levies for this purpose.

## Licenses Issued Recently By Register of Deeds

Licenses to wed issued in February by Mrs. Mary O. Sawyer, register of deeds, of Washington County, included two couples who were fully old enough to know what they were about, as Gus Mann, 63; and Frances Garrett, 50, both of Plymouth, secured the precious documents, as did George Spruill, 50; and Sadie Swain, 62, both of Roper.

Others were David Pettiford, Plymouth; to Mattie Mae Cox, Roper; Wilbur Brooks and Hattie Downing, both of Plymouth; Edward Sawyer, Edenton; to Ruth Ambrose, Plymouth; John Smallwood, Plymouth; to Eva Downing, Roper; Ernest Davenport to Lillian Downing, Plymouth.

Charles Pritchett to Mildred Davenport, Creswell; Seaton O. Respass, Plymouth; to Mary E. Latham, Pike Road; Willie Brown to Mary Bateman, Plymouth; Wilson Chesson to Cordelia Swain, Mackeys.

## Miss Gertrude Brewer in Training at Hospital

Miss Gertrude Brewer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Brewer, of this place, is now in Rocky Mount, where she has entered the Park View Hospital for a nursing course. Miss Brewer was a former student in the local School and is well known, having met many people while helping her mother, who is superintendent of public welfare in this county.

## Rev. Walter R. Noe To Preach Here Sunday

Rev. Walter R. Noe, of Wilmington, secretary of the Diocese of Eastern North Carolina, will preach here at the morning service Sunday at Grace Episcopal church. The public is invited to attend.

## Dance Pupils To Give Recital Here Friday

Probably one of the season's most interesting events will take place on Friday night on the stage at the New Theatre when the dancing class, trained by Mrs. McAvoy (formerly Miss Zelma Russ) of Washington, will give a recital. Among the members of the class we find Miss Virginia Bradshaw, who recently gave Plymouth such a treat when she appeared at the New Theatre. A 14 piece band will furnish the musical accompaniment and background. Kay Francis in "The House on 56th Street" will be shown on the screen before the recital.

## NO LOANS FROM THIS COUNTY YET REJECTED

### Around Fifty Applications Have Been Made; All For Small Sums

None of the 50 applications filed for loans with the Home Owners Loan Corporation from Washington County have been rejected so far, but of course it is not known what will be the fate of some of them in the future, according to Carl L. Bailey, local attorney representing this organization in the county.

These half hundred applicants are seeking loans totaling close to \$4,000 from owners who are seeking to save their homes from the grasp of the parties holding mortgages, some of which would have foreclosed before now had not the owners opportunity to apply to the government for aid.

These loans range in amounts from about \$50 to over \$1,000 in some cases, but most of them are for small amounts to take care of urgent needs. Mortgages were plastered on the home places to take care of repairs or to provide ready money for some emergency.

At the present it appears that none of the deserving applicants will be denied, as the bonds issued to the mortgage holder by the government for the home owner are now more in demand and are rating better in the bond market than was the case when the organization for distributing the loans was perfected.

Back in August and September of last year the bonds went down as low as 84 cents on the dollar, while now the government guarantee of the principal and interest, the rate has jumped to about 96 cents, and at one time they were worth as high as 98 cents on the dollar.

Efforts of the government to make these bonds solid have made it so that the mortgage holders will accept these bonds and in turn release the home owner, who will have plenty of time in which to pay the government which guarantees the bonds and their interest.

Already about \$2,000 worth of these bonds have been issued to mortgage holders in Washington County who would accept them, and now it appears that the remaining number will receive the same benefits in time as it is taking time for the state officials to clear up all the legal entanglements entailed in the transaction.

The \$2,000, while half of the total, does not mean that half of the 50 applications have been accepted and returns made, but it means that the amount of money in question has been settled. The large majority of the applicants wanted smaller sums.

Not all of the applications are filed through the office here of Mr. Bailey, but all of them from this county have to come through his office before the transaction is completed, as he has to look up the titles and deeds.

So in this way, Mr. Bailey predicts that already about \$2,000 has been passed about in the transaction, but he has little to base his estimate of the balance that is to be paid, as he has not been in contact with all of the applications as yet.

## Small Child of Mr. and Mrs. Walker Taken To Hospital

Creswell.—The four-day-old child of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Walker was taken to the Tayloe Hospital Monday suffering from hemorrhagic disease of the newborn.

Dr. John Tayloe came here Saturday and gave the infant a blood transfusion. A second was given in Washington from blood supplied by Miss Nina Credle.

Before marriage, Mrs. Walker was Miss Rena Harding, prominent resident of Washington, N. C.

## Warren Visits Byrd Relative To Peanuts

Washington, Feb. 26.—Representative Lindsay Warren today conferred with Senator Byrd, of Virginia, in reference to making peanuts a basic commodity under the agricultural adjustment act. Bills are now pending before the house committee of agriculture, which were introduced by Mr. Warren and Judge Kerr, while Senator Byrd is sponsoring the measure in the senate.

## Urges Scattering Straw Over Tobacco Plant Bed

E. Y. Floyd, tobacco specialist, recommends scattering about 30 pounds of clean, oat, wheat, or rye straw over each 100 yards of tobacco bed. The straw seems to have a beneficial effect in controlling downy mildew.

## John D. Langston, Jr., Resigns Position Here

John D. Langston, Jr., who has been stationed here since last August as deputy commissioner of revenue assigned to the special duties of the collections of the sales tax in Washington, Tyrrell, and Hyde Counties, has resigned and is now again living in Goldsboro.

No reason for his resignation was learned here other than that the climate here was not conducive to the health of his children, who were sick at the time they left.

Mr. Langston is the son of Colonel John D. Langston, of Goldsboro, who is well known in state politics, having served a term as state chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee.

## TEAMS WIN BUT 1 GAME IN SEASON

### Local Boys' Team Has Run of Tough Luck This Season

Probably the hardest luck team in this section at this time is the boys' varsity basketball squad of the Plymouth High School, who have won but one game this season.

The locals nosed out Roper, one time by a 19 to 17 count, while the same club from Roper defeated them thrice, by score of 32 to 12, 38 to 8, and 25 to 19. The boys played through a schedule of 10 games that included some pretty tough opponents.

The scores and teams they have played follow, with the last mentioned in each case being the score of Plymouth: Farm Life, 40 to 22; Farm Life 28 to 0; Jamesville 19 to 6; Gates 29 to 11; Bear Grass, 15 to 9; Farm Life, 25 to 9.

The junior varsity girls of the same school lost all three of their tilts, but they showed pluck by holding the opposition to low scores, as follows: Creswell, 15 to 8; Williamston, 12 to 3; and Farm Life, 12 to 7.

These two teams are coached at odd times by Albert Sculley, who has been in this work after joining the staff of the local school. The varsity girls club is coached by Principal E. H. Hicks.

## FARM NEWS

By W. V. HAYS, County Agent

The cotton reduction agreements that have not been finished should be attended to right away. The delay will hold up rental payments.

Legislation is being considered to put tax on cotton grown outside the agreement at half the market price of cotton.

Corn and hog reduction agreements are being signed at the county agent's office in Plymouth and by Mrs. C. H. Rabon at Creswell. Get your sales substantiated by some neighbor in writing and signed.

Now is the time to sow some permanent pasture. Land rented by the government may be planted to permanent pasture. Spring oats with lespedeza and carpet grass make excellent pasturage.

Lespedeza makes good hay and is also a good seeding crop. From 5 to 10 bushels of seed may be saved from an acre of lespedeza hay, if cut rather late, and still have plenty of seed for reseeded.

A peanut reduction campaign will most likely be started at an early date. The reduction in this crop will probably not be over 10 to 15 per cent.

## Subscriptions to the Beacon Must Be Paid Now

Today the Beacon embarks upon its intensive subscription campaign. During March, every subscriber to the Beacon will be visited and offered an opportunity to renew their subscription. Unless they do so then their paper will be stopped. Postal regulations require paid-in-advance subscribers. It is too expensive to send the papers out to people in arrears.

The canvassers will spend every moment possible in visiting the delinquent subscribers. Please prepare for a canvasser. They will surely visit you this month. Be prepared to pay them in cash or produce. Something must be done. Get your receipt from the canvasser to avoid mistakes. New subscribers will be sought.

See any of the following about your subscription. Prepare and see them before they call on you. Help them along. Liberal discounts will be allowed by them and generous prices will be paid for produce. Help the management and the canvassers to put the circulation on a better basis.

These are duly appointed subscription solicitors: Miss Mildred Marrow, Mrs. Delma Peal, Miss Callie Davenport, Walter H. Paramore.

## FATHER AND SON BANQUET HELD BY ROPER CLASS

### E. N. Meekins Speaker at Meeting of Young Tar Heel Farmers

Roper.—Revealing that seven out of every ten boys reared in rural communities spend the remainder of their lives on the farm, E. N. Meekins, of Raleigh, supervisor of vocational agriculture in northeastern North Carolina, pleaded for cooperation between the boys, their parents and schools in a speech at the Father and Son banquet held recently.

In his speech Mr. Meekins also pointed out many interesting facts about farm life in North Carolina and again used statistics to prove his point that the country boy, through vocational agriculture in high schools, was extended an opportunity to improve his condition.

This was the fifth father and son dinner held here. This is an annual occasion when boys and their fathers sit at the same festival board, eat together, hear speakers on farm topics and revel in mirth produced by jokes expounded by the boys and speakers.

Elmer Turner, president of the local chapter of the Young Tar Heel Farmers of North Carolina, served as toastmaster while B. B. Spencer, oldest of the 15 fathers among the 36 guests, asked the blessings on the repast. Woodrow Collins, for the lads made a toast to the fathers.

Cecil Craft (not the Plymouth barber) started the hilarity among the guests with his jokes and gags, while by the time Raymond Ambrose had finished his prophesying of the boys in the class and what they would be doing in 1944, the crowd was convulsed in laughter.

One of the most interesting and timely addresses of the evening was made by E. N. Riddle, principal of the local high school, who spoke on "Interest Parents Should Have in the School Life of Their Boys." B. G. O'Brien, head of this department in the school, allowed the boys full charge of the event.

The three course dinner—tomato cocktails, chicken salad and dessert—was prepared and served in great style by the members of the parent-teacher association. Radio music was furnished for the event. The tables were appropriately decorated for the occasion.

## Thomas Sculley Returns To New York After Visit

Thomas Sculley, of New York City, a mail teller in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York City, left Tuesday for his home after a visit with his brother, Albert Sculley, a member of the local school faculty. The visitor has been connected with the bank for 10 years. The institution is located in the financial district of greater New York, just off Wall Street.

## Home Agent Announces Schedule for Next Week

Miss Eugenia Patterson, county home demonstration agent, announces her schedule for afternoons next week as follows:

- Monday, 4-H cooking group at Plymouth.
- Tuesday: Hoke.
- Wednesday: Roper.
- Thursday: Chapel Hill.
- Friday: Beech Grove.
- Saturday: Curb market.

Ninety-eight per cent of the burley tobacco growers of Haywood County have signed the adjustment contract.

## Fined After Assault on Officers Last Saturday

J. S. (Jack) Brown, jr., was required to pay not more than \$25 toward the doctors' fees for attending Patrolman George W. Coburn and to have a glass replaced in a showcase in the Plymouth Cafe by Recorder Darden here Tuesday.

Jack was arraigned on charges of being drunk and disorderly as the result of a fracas in the local cafe last Friday night. He hit Policeman George Coburn on the nose, breaking it, and assaulted P. W. Brown. Judgment in the case was continued until March 13 to allow Brown to comply with the order of the court.

## VOICE HEARD 16 YEARS AGO REMEMBERED

### Government Agent Has Remarkable Memory for Sound

John Lanier may not remember faces but his recollection of voices is almost perfect.

Sixteen years ago Henry Chopic was making a speech in certain quarters in an up-state town in New York when federal agents swooped down on the place dispersing the crowd and breaking up the meeting.

Before they entered to bring the meeting to an abrupt end the government men stopped at the door to listen and they heard the guttural tones of a man speaking in foreign language and then they acted.

Lanier was in the group of agents. Little did he see of the speaker as darted for cover or was being questioned by the leading officers of the government as Lanier was busy with others in driving away the audience.

The raid was caused by a tip that communists were having a meeting. In the dark clouds of the World War no criticism of the government or the spreading of propaganda against patriotism. Instead of this they fell in on a group of socialists.

Lanier was in the beer parlor here of Alexander when Chopic entered talking in his broken English that carried the foreign accent. It sounded familiar. Stirring the recesses of his brain he remembered that he had heard the same voice in the New York town.

He picked a conversation with Chopic who admitted his identity. No arrests were made in the raid and no charges were brought so there was nothing to embarrass the former justice agent and the socialist, so they chatted together amicably.

In no way could Lanier have remembered the name of Chopic as in those days Chopic was known as Ivachiu. When he came here and they cultivated many local friends of English descent the family changed to the surname of Chopic which was the family name of Ivachiev's wife before marriage. His children today are known as Ivachiuns.

Chopic as a socialist thinks that President Roosevelt is a revolutionist or rather a reformer as he has changed the system of economics and is bringing many other reforms into government and politics. He appears to be a man of the hour, according to Chopic.

At the age of 17 years Chopic came to America from Austria, living in New York for sometime, and as fate would have it, moved down to Washington County where he has been for a number of years. Lanier is an insurance man and was here in the interest of his company when he heard Chopic.

The Chopics here are very nice people and with their two children are well known. Though well versed in the tenets of socialism only a few around here before this time knew the political views of Chopic as he uses most of his time in his store and not in arguing his views.

## Colored Team Wins Over Bricks Junior College

The Washington County Training School quint bowled over the Bricks Collegians here Tuesday night, 54 to 38, before a large crowd. This was the first defeat this year for the visitors, who defeated Shaw University, Chapel Hill, Raleigh, Durham, and other colored quints in a row.

Ransome led the locals with 21 points, followed by Principal Berry, who annexed 18 to help his mates at forward, while Roberts counted 7 and Spruill 5 at the guard positions.

Gray, center, played a good game for the visitors, collecting 14 points. The locals have dropped only 4 games out of 12 this season. Berry was allowed to play by the collegians, as they were a college quint playing a high school team with the exception of the principal.

## FUGITIVE GIVES HIMSELF UP TO OFFICERS HERE LAST SATURDAY

### Zion Alexander, Wanted in Beaufort for Murder, Surrenders Here

Weary and cold on a wintry day after spending a restless night roaming the places less frequented by mankind, Zion Alexander, negro, wanted for murder in Beaufort County, was Tuesday afternoon turned over to officials from the near-by county after surrendering himself here.

The stinging cold drove Alexander into the clutches of the law here to secure temporary comfort when he walked up to Sheriff J. K. Reid and explained that he was a fugitive from justice and that he wanted to surrender himself.

Alexander, known and reported in the newspapers to be named Armstrong, is wanted for the murder of Roscoe Radcliffe, white man, in Belhaven last Saturday night, after he was alleged to have shot him dead with a pistol on the streets of the Beaufort County town.

The negro admitted that he shot Radcliffe, allegedly because Radcliffe followed him down the street and pushed his (Alexander's) wife off of the street and cursed him, shoving him down an incline from the sidewalk into the street.

Alexander said that he did not mean to kill Radcliffe, but he was seized with sudden anger and wheeled around after having been insulted and shot the white man in the back, dropping him to the ground. Realizing what he had done he fled.

There has been an intensive manhunt on in that section of the state since the slaying of Radcliffe, and in the meantime Alexander had wandered around cold and hungry, evading the authorities until his resistance was worn with the continual vigil.

He was reported to have been taken to Raleigh for safe-keeping by the Beaufort County sheriff.

## ACTIVITIES OF SCOUT TROOP

### Eight New Members Are Added; Scouts Are Now Directing Traffic

The regular meeting of the local Boy Scouts troop was held last Wednesday night, the regular meeting time, with a large number of scouts present. Eight new members have been added to the troop since its reorganization.

We have started the routine of directing traffic at the intersection of Main and Washington Streets for the primary school children. The members of the troop have been on duty for about one week.

Last week we assisted our scoutmaster in preparing for and removing decorations at the Brinkley hotel. We sincerely hope that the meeting of all the teachers of the county was a success, because we really worked hard trying to make it so.

All the boys in our troop understand that there is one thing that is not tolerated, namely, that no boy shall in any way tell less than the truth about any matter. The information is ours that should anyone not tell the truth, we will be one member less than at present.—Reporter.

## Tenants Entitled To Part Of Payments on Cotton

All rental or parity payments under the cotton reduction contract are equally divided between owners and managing share-tenants. In case of cash-tenants, the tenant receives the full rental and parity payments during the term of his lease. Where the tenant is farming on shares the payments are made to the owner, but he is under contract to turn over to the tenant a part of the parity payment as determined by the tenant's share of the crop.

## Distribution of Checks Boosts Signing Contracts

The distribution of cotton option checks in Bertie County recently boosted the signing of cotton-reduction contracts. Ninety per cent of the growers having options on government cotton secured the loan of 4 cents a pound.

## Small Grain Will Be Aided By Top Dressing of Soda

Small grain damaged by recent cold weather will be aided by a top-dressing of nitrate of soda. The nitrate should be applied just before the plants begin to tiller, say extension specialists at State College.

## 100 GROWERS AT MEETING HELD HERE LAST SATURDAY

### Resolutions Advocate Compulsory Control of Acreage

Upwards of 100 peanut growers were present at the meeting held here Saturday morning, at which time a resolution was passed endorsing the movement to control the acreage of the nuts in this country this year.

The meeting was called at the behest of W. R. Hampton, chairman of the board of Washington County commissioners, and A. L. Owens, one of the largest growers in the county, with W. V. Hays, county farm agent, explaining the purpose of the meeting.

The following resolution was passed: "Whereas, there has been a tendency for several years to annually increase the acreage planted in peanuts, this being accounted for principally by the fact that the peanut belt has continuously expanded in area. And whereas, the peanut growers anticipate with alarm that farmers within what is the present peanut belt and in other territory capable of producing peanuts, may greatly increase the acreage planted in peanuts in the years 1934, on account of the fact that acreage reductions are being made in other cash crops, and even that acreage leased to the United States government under reduction agreements may possibly be planted in peanuts on account of the fact that peanuts have not been designated by act of Congress as one of the basic crops under recent agricultural legislation, and which would not be prohibited as would be the case with other crops which have been so designated.

"And whereas, the present producers of peanuts feel that their position is endangered to a greater extent in the calendar year 1934 than ever before on account of the situation as stated.

"Therefore, be it resolved that the United States Senators from North Carolina, and the members of congress from the various districts of the state of North Carolina, and particularly Hon. Lindsay C. Warren, member of Congress from the first congressional district, are extremely urged to sponsor and support immediate enactment of legislation by Congress naming peanuts as an additional basic farm crop, to be governed and controlled by the same laws applicable to tobacco, cotton, and other crops.

That it is the sense of the peanut growers of Washington County, North Carolina, that a compulsory control plan of acreage reduction, to be based on the production for the years 1929-30-31-32-33, would best serve the interest of the present growers in the present peanut belt. That such plans should be so devised as to absolutely prohibit planting of peanuts in any quantity on farms not heretofore producing peanuts. That plans for the consummation of the above or some similar plans should be rushed to completion as quickly as possible on account of the urgency of the situation and the nearness of the planting season for peanuts.

## W. A. Swain Named As Trustee for Drips

Mackeys.—W. A. Swain, winning candidate in the prohibition election last November, when he carried the county as a dry, has been named a trustee for this county in the permanent organization formed by the United Dry Forces.

Mr. Swain will help in the state work of obtaining better enforcement of prohibition laws and to promote temperance education. The state board of trustees, of which Mr. Swain is a member will meet in Raleigh on March 20 to elect officers for the permanent organization.

## Cale K. Burgess, State Director of the United Dry Forces, Has Declared: "The people of North Carolina are greatly interested in the election of a General Assembly that will not legalize the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages or attempt in any way to weaken our present prohibition laws."

Seventh Graders To Take Tests March 21

Seventh grades in the Washington County public schools had just as well get down to some hard studying as they will have to stand their usual tests on March 21, it was learned today from James W. Norman, superintendent of public instruction.

Already the order for the test questions have been placed with the publisher by J. Henry Highsmith, of Raleigh, director of the division of instructional service in the North Carolina schools.