

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

# THE ROANOKE BEACON

AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

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## CAGE SEASON TO GET UNDERWAY HERE THIS WEEK

### Boys and Girls Teams of Local School Have Been Working Hard

After working hard for two months, the local high school girls' and boys' basketball teams are ready to open the season here. Although a definite schedule has not been completed at this time, Manager Gardner anticipates a game with either Creswell or Jamesville to start the season.

Since three of last year's members of the boys' varsity team are playing again this season, the boys are hopeful of a better than average team. Over twenty-five boys are out each day for training and among the more promising players are Tarkenton, Gardner, Ralph Swain, Dick Lucas, Marvin Rose, Leon Rose, Hubert Cox, Roscoe Browning, Lewis Weede, Bob Bateman and Russell Harrison.

The gymnasium will be used for all the home games with a small admission for both students and town patrons.

### Change Course of Study

The local school teachers are hard at work on the revision of the course of study in citizenship which is required this year by the State Department of Education. Plans are being made to visit each child's home before Christmas to discuss character traits with the parents. Each parent is requested to cooperate in giving all necessary information.

### Course in Typewriting

It is understood that the typewriting course at the high school building is going to be offered after all. Miss Helen Brinkley, formerly of Norfolk and a graduate of the Norfolk Business College, is planning to begin teaching January 2. The tuition for the course will be \$2.50, payable in advance.

### Planning Christmas Tree

With the Christmas holidays fast approaching, plans are underway to have a real Christmas tree, Santa Claus and Christmas pageant in the school auditorium for the children on the last day, December 21st. Miss Lois Parker has been placed in charge and she plans to call upon local singers to aid in her program.

### Stage Play Being Planned

Principal L. M. Anderson stated this week that he is corresponding with the Bergman Players, Atlanta, for a stage presentation of Oliver Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer" in the school auditorium on December 14th. The students feel quite proud of being able to see these famous players, and it is hoped that the patrons will back this worthwhile venture.

## BIG BIBLE CLASS HAS BARBECUE

### Thirty-Three Men Attend Event Held in Creswell Wednesday Night

Creswell.—The Men's Bible Class of the Creswell Baptist church enjoyed a barbecue supper Wednesday night in Wiley's store here. Corn bread, cole slaw, sweet potatoes, pickles, coffee, barbecue, ice cream and cake were served. There were 33 men present.

Rev. W. H. Hollowell was present and made a short impressive talk on the growth of the class and stated, "I should be congratulated for being the pastor of a church that has the largest men's Bible class in the county." C. H. Rabon is teacher of the class.

The building was decorated with many colors with autumn leaves and moss hanging from the ceiling. Music for the evening was provided by J. E. Aiken and his band from Roper. This gathering was enjoyed so well that plans are being made to have such an affair more frequently.

Ladies serving at the supper follow: Mesdames C. H. Rabon, Fred Smith, A. C. Harris, Roy Hopkins, Clyde Smithson, and Miss Mary Clarke.

### Woman's Club Holds Regular Meet Tuesday

The Woman's Club of Plymouth held its monthly meeting Tuesday night as joint hostesses with the Junior Woman's Club. The regular business routine was disposed of. A plea for clothes for students of the FERA school was discussed and the club decided to do what it could to help them by donating old usable clothes. These will be collected Friday afternoon by the Boy Scouts. If you have anything be sure and leave it on your porch for them.

Red Cross seals will be sold by the club. If you need Christmas seals, why not use these?

A delightful program, Christmas in other lands, was presented by the pupils of Miss Nellie Tarkenton's room and a few others. A tempting salad course with hot coffee was served.

## DISTRICT RELIEF OFFICE WILL GO TO WILLIAMSTON

### Julian C. Gibbs Is Named To Head Office; To Move This Week

Citizens of Plymouth have entered a strenuous protest against locating the district relief office in Williamston, and efforts are now being made to have the decision reconsidered by state relief authorities. It is understood that Mrs. Thomas O'Berry, state administrator, is being besieged by requests from leading citizens of Washington County to locate the office here. As the Beacon went to press, there was no report of the progress being made by the local petitioners.

Williamston has been chosen at the place for the new district office of the North Carolina Emergency Relief Administration for Tyrrell, Washington, Martin, and Bertie Counties, it was learned here today on reliable and authentic information.

Julian C. Gibbs, administrator for Washington County for the last year or more, has been named as administrator for the district office, which will be opened at once on the second floor of the municipal building in the Martin County capital.

Miss Athalia Gardner, who has been employed in the Plymouth office since the beginning of the old welfare regime has been promoted from the same position here to that of assistant disbursing officer for the district and will follow her boss, Mr. Gibbs, to Williamston.

Guilford Smith, of Greenville, has been named statistician for the Martin County division office. He will be in Williamston by the end of the week, and it is thought that the office will be in operation in Williamston just as soon as possible.

Plymouth made a powerful bid for the office to be placed here, as was first designated, but Bertie added pressure to the claim from Williamston which offered office space, lights, heat telephone facilities and other things, as did Plymouth.

It had been decided, though, that there will be no discrimination in the use of the funds for the counties, and, as has been the method heretofore, the funds for relief work will be allocated to the counties from Raleigh and can not be diverted from the county for which intended.

All relief orders that are presented to the vendor or merchants by the client of the relief will be paid from the disbursing office in Williamston and should be sent direct to the ERA disbursing officer in Williamston.

This means that the force here will be reduced to about three or four persons, which will include a clerk and two or three case workers. This is not definite, but something can be told positively by the next issue of the Beacon, as the set-up of the district office and the reorganization of the local agency will be completed.

H. C. McDaniel, of Raleigh, field auditor, and Miss Mary Ward, of New Bern, field representative, were in Plymouth Thursday arranging for the set-up of the new office here and in Williamston.

## JAILED NEGRO TRIES SUICIDE

### Ernest Johnson Slashes His Throat With Old Safety Razor Blade

No reason was given by Ernest Johnson, negro, for his efforts to commit suicide by slashing his throat with a razor blade in the Washington County jail here Tuesday afternoon about 1:30 o'clock.

Occupants of the jail called for Sheriff J. K. Reid after the negro had slashed his throat with an old razor blade. A gash requiring four stitches was slit in his throat, but not close enough to the jugular vein to be dangerous.

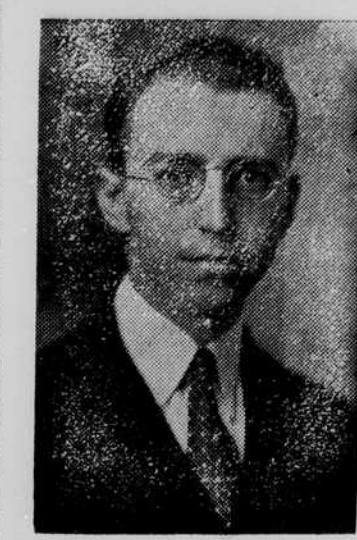
Johnson was in jail awaiting trial for stabbing another negro in a melee during last week-end. He maintained silence when questioned by officers and would make no statement as to why he attempted to take his own life.

So far as could be determined by officers here, this was the first and only attempt at suicide in the local jail. The negro manifested despondency because of the charge against him and his incarceration.

Interment was made Saturday morning in the family cemetery at the Belanga home.

Creswell.—Mrs. J. F. Belanga died at her home near Creswell Thursday evening at 5:30 o'clock, November 22, at the age of 67 years. She is survived by her husband, two sons, and several grand children.

## CHURCH LEADER



Virgil A. Sly, associate secretary in department of religious education, United Christian Missionary Society, of Indianapolis, Ind., who will be a speaker at the one-day convention in Plymouth on Friday, December 14.

## DISCIPLES WILL MEET DEC. 14TH AT PLYMOUTH

### Large Crowds Are Expected for One-Day Meeting; Plans Outlined

Members of the numerous churches of the Disciples of Christ in 11 adjoining counties will gather in the Plymouth Christian church for a one-day convention that will be held Friday, December 14, with Virgil A. Sly, associate secretary in the department of religious education of the United Christian Missionary Society of the Disciples of Christ, as team leader.

Others in the team who will participate in the one-day sessions include Miss Florine Cantrell, missionary; Mrs. H. H. Settle, state leader in women's missionary organizations, and E. B. Quick, religious education leader. Mr. Sly, leader of the group, is a graduate of Cotner College. He came to the United States as field secretary in the Rocky Mountain area and since that time has served as national director of summer conferences; director of promotion and publicity; and departmental associate.

Counties included in this group meeting will be Beaufort, Chowan, Currituck, Halifax, Hyde, Martin, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, and Washington. The theme of the meeting will be "Christ Transforms Men and Nations," and ideas on different angles of this subject will be discussed. A total of 191 conventions will be held in the United States and Canada this year. Last year there was an attendance at these meetings of 50,817.

"In one day those attending the convention will have portrayed to them the educational and missionary program of their church, a work which ministers to every race and color in America; to those in foreign fields; and to churches and their organizations throughout the land.

"They will hear, among other things how Christian hospitals in war-torn China and in the heart of Africa are demonstrating the spirit of Christianity; how home mission institutes are ministering to the Mexicans, Japanese, Indians, and French in our own country; how the young people of the churches are experiencing a livable Christianity in young people's summer conferences," says Rev. N. A. Taylor, pastor of the Plymouth Christian church, who urged all who can to attend.

## Officers Elected at Cherry Club Meeting

At a recent meeting, the Cherry home demonstration club elected its officers for the next two years as follows:

Mrs. Bessie White, president; Miss Ida Davis, vice president; Miss Mary S. Davenport, secretary; Mrs. Clyde Woodley, clothing leader; Mrs. G. A. Overton, garden leader; Mrs. E. D. Woodley, canning leader; Mrs. Steve Davenport, Mrs. R. A. Gibbs and Mrs. Roy Davenport, social leaders. A Christmas program will feature the next meeting to be held with Mrs. Clyde Woodley.

## Home Agent Announces Schedule for Next Week

Miss Eugenia Patterson, county home demonstration agent, announces the following schedule of club meetings for next week:

Monday, Scuppernon.  
Tuesday, Cherry.  
Wednesday, Swain.  
Thursday, Wenoona.  
Friday, Mount Tabor.  
Curb market Saturday morning.  
Monday evening, December 10, at 7:30, County Bridge.  
Wednesday evening, Dec. 12, at 7:30, Alba.

## ORPHANS WRITE OF THANKS FOR OXFORD HOME

### Four Children Sent From County Number Years Ago Grateful

Kindness to four orphaned children by a group of Masons about a dozen years ago came in for expression of gratitude when a letter was read last night to Perseverance Lodge No. 59 from Miss Euna Mae Allen of the Masonic orphanage in Oxford.

Back in 1922, John W. Darden, who was then superintendent of public instruction in Washington County, and also an officer in the Masonic fraternity went to the home of four Allen children and saw their mother's body laid in a grave and the children left with only a father.

They brought the children to a hotel here and kept them for a few days until they could get them in the Oxford institution. Some of the other three children have visited Mr. Darden and others here, and Euna Mae Allen came here last summer with the singing class and renewed her acquaintance.

So a letter came to Mr. Darden this week which he read to the lodge on Tuesday night. Excerpts from the letter follow:

"The main reason I wanted to write you was that I have been wondering if you were the nice gentleman who helped get the four Allen children in this fine home. If you were, it would take a lifetime to thank you. As I am youngest (15 years of age) and the only one left here I will write you just a note.

"Harry Lee Allen, who was the oldest, got married about three years ago and lives about 10 miles from Oxford in Hester. Emmett Lester is in Camp 411, CCC, at Smoke mont. Mary Alice is with Elbert and his wife and baby in Maryland.

"My greatest ambition is to get an education and teach others. I certainly am glad I was placed here by you good Masons. Some day I'll show you how I appreciate this home. I'll admit I am not so smart, but I can do my best."

Excerpts from Mr. Darden's reply: "You tell us so many interesting things that it makes me feel that if we (the Masonic lodge here) had done nothing else than get you into that worthy institution we have been of great value to the world. You were just a little girl of three when I went to your old home and took you to your present home.

"You probably never knew, Euna, that a few months after you were placed in that good home, that I got the Masons here to place a marker at the grave of your mother. She was buried in the front yard of your old home in Wenoona. We did this so you might know where she sleeps. She was a fine lady and mother.

"I shall suggest to the lodge that they pay your expenses here next summer to come as the guest of all Masons here on your summer vacation. You are smart to get such a good report in school. I am certain you are proud of the Masonic fraternity and the institution there. Write another letter some time."

## TO RAISE EMPTY STOCKING FUND

### Committee Named to Make Solicitation and Plans Outlined

The woman's club is asking that all clubs, organizations and churches cooperate in the sponsoring of an empty stocking fund. The purpose of this fund is that all children may share Christmas joy.

The sharing of pleasures with others will make each one feel much happier. Remember, "It's not what we give but what we share" that delights one's heart the most.

The fund will be handled through a central committee composed of the following:

Miss Sadie Ausbon (chairman) Methodist church; Mrs. Jack Peale, Woman's Club; Mrs. Ernest Arps, Legion Auxiliary; Mrs. Mary Caboon, Episcopal church; Mrs. George Bowen, Christian church; Miss Emily Brinkley, Junior Woman's Club; Edward L. Owens, Masons; Mrs. Leon Rose, Baptist church; and Mrs. W. C. Brewer.

The solicitation of these gifts and donations will be started soon. Be sure and look over what you have and share generously with the children who otherwise would be disappointed Christmas morning. Toys that can be repaired as well as new ones, fruits, candies and money will be solicited.

The members of the central committee just named will meet Friday night, Dec. 7, at 8 p. m., in the emergency relief office over Leggett's store.

# New County Commissioners Take Up Work Last Monday

## JURY LIST FOR JANUARY COURT DRAWN MONDAY

### List of County Citizens, by Townships, Selected for Jury Duty

Jurors as chosen for the January term of Washington County Superior Court by the commissioners in session here Monday follow:

**First Week**  
Plymouth: J. E. Gurganus, John T. Browning, W. W. Ange, Jr., J. L. Siterson, D. A. Bassinger, L. W. Gurkin, H. E. Harrison, C. L. Groves, Abe Adler, J. M. Horton, H. L. Horton.  
Lees Mills: T. H. Davis, J. E. C. Johnston, H. W. Tarkenton, Jr., W. D. Davis, E. R. Oliver, C. J. Ainsley, L. T. Bowen, J. A. Chesson, W. A. Koonce, C. W. Hardison, J. S. Davenport.  
Scuppernon: O. D. Hatfield, Earl Midgett, J. E. Hare, Noah Ambrose, Leonard B. Spruill, Phillip E. Ambrose, T. S. Spencer, Frank Swain, and Ernest Spear.  
Skinner'sville: J. B. Patrick, Roy V. Patrick, C. A. Alexander, M. F. Davenport, Hugh Patrick.

**Second Week**  
Plymouth: E. A. Harrison, B. G. Campbell, E. L. Ayers, L. S. Stryon, Morris Poteat, Gaston Ambrose, Hugh B. Allen, Joe Jethro, R. H. Hardison, Ira T. Hardison, Trim H. Waters.  
Lees Mills: John Furlough, O. M. Allen, Raymond A. Tarkington, J. L. Rhea.  
Scuppernon: J. L. Phelps, J. B. Snell, William Oliver, S. D. Burgess, C. A. Hassell, J. W. Starr.  
Skinner'sville: C. L. Everett, L. W. Liverman, L. F. Davenport.

## LOCAL JUNIORS NAME OFFICERS FOR NEXT YEAR

### Two New Applications for Membership Received; Other News

Plymouth Rock Council, No. 213, Jr. O. U. A. M., at their regular meeting Monday night elected the following officers for the coming term of six months:

Councilor: Dr. C. McGowan.  
Vice councilor: Gilbert Davis.  
Junior past councilor: W. W. Brown.

Chaplain, C. A. Gradeless.  
Treasurer, E. S. Mizell.  
Inside sentinel, G. B. Tetterton.  
Outside sentinel, C. W. Alexander.  
Warden, R. E. Overton.  
Conductor, R. A. Tetterton.  
Recording secretary, B. O. Bishop.  
Financial secretary, R. L. Tetterton.  
Assistant recording secretary, J. T. Browning.

Trustee: L. J. Spear.  
Representative to state convention: W. W. Browning.

Two applications for membership were brought in by R. C. Jackson and will be added to the Reds when voted in the council.

The membership and attendance contest between the Reds and Blues is nearing an end and it looks like a turkey supper will be enjoyed by the council some time in the near future.

## Former School Stars Form Basketball Team

Former cage stars of the Plymouth High School have come together to form a basketball squad that will play a series of games through the winter and maybe spring season. They hope to open with a game in the high school gym on December 14, at which time Aiken and his band from Roper will be asked to play.

No definite theme has been selected as the opposition but it is hoped a game can be arranged at that time. Among those who are competing for places on the team are Garland Hardison, Alton Harrison, Henry Harrison, Ira Hardison, Bill Clagon, Eddie Getsinger, W. C. Burnham, Frank Spruill and one or two from Dardens. Just who will be coach and manager of the squad is not yet definite.

## Episcopal Auxiliary To Hold Bazaar at Creswell

Creswell.—The ladies' auxiliary of the Episcopal church will hold their annual bazaar at the W. M. Wiley store Friday, December 14. Suppers will be sold, as well as fancy work, candies, and other things. Come prepared to buy your Christmas presents. Every one is cordially invited to come and enjoy the evening.

## FARM NOTES

By W. V. HAYS, County Agent

December 14th is the day set for the referendum on the Bankhead act. Whether or not this plan is continued another year depends upon the votes of the county. One in each township, cast on Friday, the 14th.

There will be four voting places in Creswell, Skinner'sville, Roper, and Plymouth. Voting may be done from 9 in the morning until 5 in the afternoon. Those eligible to vote are those signing cotton reduction contracts and any person who received exemption certificates. These names are recorded and checked at the voting places, where ballots will be given and voted in somewhat the usual way.

A vote on the Kerr-Smith plan of control for tobacco will be taken some time during the week of December 10 to determine whether tobacco growers wish the present plan of administration to continue.

Cards will be sent all producers and their tenants notifying them of the appointed time and place for voting, as will be the case with cotton.

Every man who produced tobacco this year, regardless of whether he be landlord or tenant, and whether he be contract signer or non-signer, is entitled to vote.

In case the Bankhead plan is continued cotton producers who did not sign the reduction contract will be permitted to sign a reduction contract and receive benefits in 1935. Whether or not this will be the case with tobacco I am unable to say at the present time.

The peanut reduction contracts will be offered to peanut growers about the first of the year. This date will definitely be announced some time soon.

The present corn-hog contract in a modified form will be offered growers for another year. Plans are for a small increase in the number of hogs allotted to producers with the same option applying to corn. The payments on hogs will be somewhat less but the payments for corn will be increased to 35 cents per bushel average production on rented land.

## TO PROSECUTE ALL VIOLATORS OF ROAD LAWS

### Motorists Must Stop While School Buses Taking On Children

Violators of the traffic law prohibiting the passing of school buses while they are loading or unloading passengers were haled before the Washington County Board of Education Monday and were admonished for their failure to stop while these buses were taking on or discharging children.

Continued violation of this highway law will result in the future in indictments and court trials for the offenders, as this must be stopped. The county officials pointed out that the enforcement of this law was simply to protect the children and that hereafter court action would be taken.

James W. Norman, superintendent of public instruction, pointed out that something must be done about this before some child was killed or maimed for life by a careless driver. All motor vehicle drivers are urged to cooperate in this effort to check the possibility of injuring some child.

The board also heard a report that 200 additional seats had been installed in the Creswell schools and a new pump had been added to the water supply.

## Hold Funeral Services For Mr. Jas. B. Lucas

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning for James Boy (Jim) Lucas, 69 years of age, who died of heart trouble Sunday after being confined to his bed for two weeks. Rev. Richard Lucas and Rev. Gilbert Davis officiated. Interment took place in the Lucas burying ground.

Mr. Lucas was a well-known farmer in this county and was an uncle to Rev. Richard Lucas and his brothers. Surviving are two sons, Aubrey H. Lucas, of Norfolk; and Ernest Lucas, of Tampa, Fla.; and one daughter.

## Infant Son of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Sawyer Dies

Death came to the infant son of Dennis A. Sawyer and Nanny Davenport Sawyer last week-end. Burial of the child took place at Holly Neck on Monday of this week.

## ALSO CALL FOR SPECIAL MEET TO BE HELD FRIDAY

### Number of Appointments Are Made at Meeting Held Monday

Cautiously and slowly the new commissioners of Washington County are acquainting themselves with the condition of the county government, and Friday are expected to be back on their job considering business matters.

The new group, composed of J. M. Clagon, Frank L. Brinkley and Clyde Smithson, have assumed the duties and responsibilities of the welfare of the county as relinquished Monday at noon when W. R. Hampton, E. R. Lewis, and O. R. Armstrong bade the new county officials farewell and God-speed.

One of the first official acts of the regime was to name Wilbur M. Darden as prosecuting attorney to succeed W. L. Whitley, whose term expired on the first Monday in December. Mr. Darden took charge immediately and attended to the cases that came up in recorder's court Tuesday.

Herbert Hamilton was renamed janitor, although W. E. Blount, of Roper, had a written application in for this job. L. L. Basnight was retained as keeper of the Washington County farm and county home. None of the salaries were raised.

S. D. Davis applied for the job as tax collector now held by J. Corbett Swain. Nothing has been done in regard to this matter. It is expected that it will come up Friday. M. W. Spruill applied for the job as county accountant. He is now accountant for the town of Plymouth. This will be settled later.

The commissioners decided that hereafter the names of payee, amount paid, and purposes for which money was paid will be listed in the minutes of each meeting as the bills are approved by the county. J. M. Clagon, of Roper, was named chairman of the board of county commissioners.

The bond for Mrs. Mary O. Sawyer as register of deed, for \$2,500, with the Maryland Casualty Company as security, was approved. No action was taken on the bond submitted by J. K. Reid as sheriff-process server, for \$5,000, which had the National Security Corporation as security, and which existed during the period between December 3, 1934, to December 3, 1936.

C. C. W. Aushon, clerk of Washington County Superior Court and also clerk of recorder's court, and E. G. Arps, treasurer, were given until Monday, December 17, 1934, to submit their bond.

The commissioners will meet again on Friday of this week. They were in session Monday afternoon and all day Tuesday.

## OWNERS OF LAND WILL MEET HERE

### One of Series of Meetings Scheduled Here Friday Of Next Week

One of a series of land owners conferences that will be held over this section will be held in Plymouth on Tuesday, December 11, at 7:30 p. m., with N. G. Bartlett, secretary-manager of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce, in charge.

The theme of the meeting will be to discuss with the landowners of the section a legislative program that the sectional organization expects to sponsor at the coming legislature. An urgent invitation is extended to all property owners to attend the meeting here next Tuesday.

"Agricultural interests of eastern North Carolina need to be looked after in no uncertain manner, as the rural section of this area is beginning to stage a comeback now and the commercial organization is going to see that nothing is done to retard the progress already started towards recovery," said Guy V. Smith, of Greenville, president of the organization.

## Swain Club Elects Officers At Recent December Meet

Meeting recently with Mrs. J. J. Burdine, the Swain Club elected its officers for the new term, as follows: President, Mrs. O. A. Chesson; vice president, Mrs. T. W. Freeman; secretary, Mrs. Jasper Swain; sewing leader, Mrs. Clyde Robbins; canning leader, Mrs. T. H. Davis; garden leader, Mrs. N. C. Vail; home leader, Mrs. Lavis Skiles.

A Christmas program will be held at the next meeting with Mrs. Clyde Robbins.