

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.

VOLUME XLVI—NUMBER 49

Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Friday, December 6, 1935

ESTABLISHED 1889

## ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST MASONIC MEET OBSERVED

### Minutes of Meet 124 Years Ago Read; Grand Officers Are Principal Speakers

Back more than a century ago, before Napoleon of France had met the Duke of Wellington at Waterloo; when King George III of England was troubling America over the freedom of trade on the high seas; when Horace Greeley was born—there came into existence the oldest active organization in Washington County. It was Perseverance Lodge, No. 59, of the Masonic Order. They held their first meeting in 1812. Tuesday night, 124 years later, the minutes of the first meeting were read and the celebration of the anniversary of the lodge was enjoyed by Masons from all over this section.

Invocation was by Rev. Nixon A. Taylor, pastor of the Christian church, with music including a solo by Mrs. C. D. Price, a quartet by J. S. Norman, C. J. Norman, A. T. Darden, and N. A. Taylor. John W. Darden called the roll of all available past masters of the lodge. Edgar Martin, of Washington, district deputy grand master, was presented by Master W. M. Darden. Thomas H. Anderson, of Raleigh, grand secretary of the grand lodge of North Carolina, was introduced by Past Master T. W. Snell. The principal speaker of the occasion, Charles B. Newcomb, of Wilmington, grand master of the grand lodge of North Carolina, was presented by Z. V. Norman. Mr. Newcomb's subject was "A Pile of Bricks."

Officers of the first lodge included such names as the following: Ezekiel Hardison, Ezekiel Holloman, John Walker, John Frazier, Samuel Hardison, John Parker, Josiah Flowers, Asa Hardison, Horace Ely, Harmon Harrison, William Rouliac, Enoch Blount, Benjamin B. Hunter. Among the out-of-town visitors, in addition to the grand officers, was W. C. Manning, of Williamston.

## Grocery Store Here Is Destroyed by Fire Last Friday Night

### Machines Used in Sewing Room Also Burned; Little Insurance

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed Babe Towle's shop here last Friday night, doing a damage estimated at close to \$1,000. In the building was a grocery store operated by Moses Towle and a room operated by Mrs. W. C. Brewer, welfare worker, as a sewing room. The stock and fixtures of the store was destroyed and the machines used in the sewing room were also burned. David Hurley was among the first to see the fire and helped to turn in the alarm. At midnight, when it was discovered, the roof had already fallen in before firemen were summoned. Babe Towle was working in Washington and Moses Towle had left the grocery store at 10 o'clock. Insurance on the building and furnishings amounted to close to \$700. A cash register, scales and several counters and other fixtures were destroyed.

## Will Give Drivers Exams Here Friday

Examinations of applicants for drivers' license for automobiles will be held in Sheriff J. K. Reid's office at the courthouse Friday morning, beginning at 10:30 o'clock. Patrolman G. A. Stewart with an assistant will handle the applicants.

Those who did not apply to the state before November 1 must have their \$1 fee and the registration card of the vehicle they wish permission to drive. The brakes, rear mirror and windshield of the cars must be in good condition before an applicant will be allowed to drive it.

Those who haven't applied for their license and those who do not come here for examination subject themselves to arrest by operating a car. Applicants will be examined here every Friday.

## Alexander Man Has 10 Acres of Certified Corn

F. S. Strikeleather of Taylorsville, Alexander County, has a ten-acre field of Jarvis golden prolific corn which has been inspected and certified by the crop improvement association.

## HENRY A. OLIVER IS FATALLY HURT WHEN HIT BY CAR

### Joe Tucker Tetterton Driver Of Car; Funeral Held Saturday

Funeral services were held Saturday for Henry Augustus Oliver, 66, who was fatally injured Thanksgiving evening about 7 o'clock, when he was struck by an automobile allegedly driven by Joe Tucker Tetterton, of Plymouth.

Interment took place in the family cemetery on the Willis Mizelle farm between Plymouth and Roper. Rev. R. H. Lucas, pastor of the Baptist church, officiated. Death was due to a fractured skull, according to Dr. T. L. Bray, who attended the injured man.

Mr. Tetterton was proceeding toward Plymouth when a car ahead of him passed Mr. Oliver. As he chose to hit the rear of the car ahead rather than strike Mr. Oliver he swerved, but Mr. Oliver fell against the car. It was reported that he was inebriated.

Surviving Mr. Oliver is a widow and several brothers and sisters: Pearly, Milton, and Ernest Oliver, and Mesdames Louis Marriner and Tottie Sawyer, all of Washington County. No children are living.

## Splendid Work Is Being Done Here At Sewing Rooms

### 42 Women Given Employment; Number Garments Are Completed

The Washington County Women's WPA sewing rooms are doing splendid work for the two weeks they have been in progress, and a goodly number of garments are ready to be turned over to the county for distribution. There are four sewing rooms in operation, two in Plymouth section, one in Roper, and one in Creswell, 42 women are employed. It is hoped the project can be enlarged and employment given to more women later on.

The U. S. employment office in Edenton sends the assignments to workers, and it is only those who have the priority in employment in their family and have had direct or work relief in May or July that are assigned to WPA projects. Only one person in a family may be given employment. Mrs. W. C. Brewer, county supervisor of Women's Projects, wishes to state she is unable to give employment to any one. The material for the sewing project is given by the government. The rent, fuel and furnishings are solicited from the communities. Splendid cooperation has been given from each community, as it has been in years past. Washington County has always demonstrated this spirit toward a worth-while work benefiting those who are in need. Mrs. Brewer wishes to express her appreciation to those who have assisted in getting these projects in operation.

## Prison Camp Near Here Abandoned

Prisoners must be moved from the camp near the new Washington County Home as early as possible, according to instructions issued to the State Highway and Public Works Commission by the Washington County commissioners, who do not want the unsightly buildings and the environment near the new and beautiful county home.

It is not known what move the highway forces will make. It is thought that the prison camp will be placed somewhere else in the county. The other buildings will possibly be taken down or moved back from the road.

The commissioners also asked Recorder John W. Darden to vacate his room in the courthouse for a superior court library. The commissioners will meet again in special session Monday, December 9.

## Roper Boys' Team Loses To Creswell

Roper High School boys were defeated by Creswell High School in a basketball game in Roper last Tuesday. The score was 21 to 15. It was a hard-fought game all the way, with Creswell in the lead most of the time. The Roper team had no outstanding player, but E. Davenport was a star for Creswell.

## Home and Club News

By Mary Frances Misenheimer

### Schedule for Next Week

Monday, Dec. 9, Scuppernon. Tuesday afternoon, Cherry. Tuesday night, Pleasant Grove. Wednesday afternoon, Albemarle. Wednesday night, Swain. Thursday afternoon, Wenona. Thursday night, County Bridge. Friday afternoon, Mount Tabor. Alba Club meet Monday or Friday night, the time has not been decided. Saturday night, Creswell club.

Since there is an agents' conference in Raleigh beginning December 16, I am having the meetings that I would miss during that week held at night next week. Curb market next Saturday morning. Be sure to come. Mrs. Joe Browning, of Hoke Club, led the sellers in market receipts Saturday morning, selling \$13.55.

A prize is to be given to the club which plans the most attractive and economical way to fix the home agent's office. With the coming of the new year the office needs to look new. All plans are to be handed to the agent by January 15. All clubs are asked to enter this contest. A judge will be secured to decide which plan is the most suitable.

"Foods" is the major project for the clubs to work with the coming year. Much work is being planned by the agent and club members, to be done. Our aim is "better food—good health." A \$5 check has been received from the Ball Jar Company. The following women will receive the money. They entered the Ball canning contest and won the first three places: First, Mrs. W. B. Chesson, \$2. Second, Mrs. J. F. Furlough, \$1.50. Third, Mrs. Jane Vail, \$1.50.

## Fires Have Done Much Damage in Section Recently

### Home of Sheriff Reid Damaged Tuesday; 2 Colored Homes Burn Thursday

Fires have caused hundreds of dollars in damages in Plymouth in the last few days. The Washington Street home of Sheriff J. K. Reid was damaged from a blaze that caught in the kitchen on Tuesday morning. Except from water that was used in combating the blaze the damage was slight, although the roof of the kitchen was threatened when the fire-fighters arrived.

Two colored homes owned by Roberta Pettiford were burned to the ground about dawn on Thursday. They were occupied by the families of Hattie James and Olivia Mayo. After making a fire, the Mayo woman went back to bed and Robert Wilson with three women pulled her out just before the roof fell in. All of the household effects of the two families were destroyed. Damage was estimated at \$900, including the houses.

A peanut picker owned by John Atamanchuk was destroyed last Friday along with 100 bags of peanuts and hay. Babe Towle's shop on the highway was destroyed recently also.

## Barbecue Dinner at New County Home

A barbecue dinner was served at the new Washington county home Friday night to more than a hundred guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Basnight keepers of the home and farm. No speeches were made. Folk songs were sung by a group led by Z. V. Norman.

Among the celebrities present were E. W. Lordley, district administrator of NCERA, N. J. Sheppard, assistant director of NCERA, C. L. Bobbitt, district project engineer, WPA, W. O. Pratt, division of project planning and materials, all of Elizabeth City. W. R. Wyatt, assistant director of district for WPA, wired his regrets for being unable to attend.

Members of the board of commissioners and other local public men and many of the working force were present.

## Woman Club Will Meet Here Friday

The Senior Woman's Club will hold their regular meeting at 3:30 Friday afternoon, December 6, in the American Legion Hall. Mrs. Edlow Harrison, chairman of publicity committee, urges all to be present and on time.

## JURY DRAWN FOR NEXT TERM OF SUPERIOR COURT

### Two-Weeks Mixed Term Will Be Held Here in January

Jurors chosen for service in the two weeks' term of Washington County Superior Court which will be held here in January are as follows:

#### First Week

Plymouth: W. C. Myers, R. J. Sydenstricker, James H. Styron, A. T. Darden, S. A. Smith, A. A. Bryant, T. W. Snell, Walter H. Paramore, J. E. Campbell, W. H. Gurkin, J. E. Askew, M. G. Ward, G. L. Chesson. Skippersville: J. L. Swain, J. W. Alexander, B. O. Oliver, Cecil Furlough, W. B. Barber, C. D. Swain.

#### Second Week

Plymouth: E. A. Harrison, P. M. Arps, Frank C. Spruill, L. S. Thompson, R. T. Tetterton, J. W. Norman, Gaston Ambrose, George W. Harrison, J. Bruce Tetterton. Skippersville: F. C. Spruill, Paul Tarkenton, Walter C. Spruill. Lees Mills: C. W. Blount, jr., W. T. Spruill, Luther Bowen, E. M. Chesson, J. W. Griffin.

Scuppernon: A. H. Ambrose, H. R. Stillman, H. Rixey White, Milton E. Ambrose, J. T. Woodley, Joseph Davenport, Marshall E. Woodley, D. W. Furlough. Under the "Re-Purchase Pool" plan a farmer can place his cotton with the association where it will be classed according to government standards. He can draw an advance of 10 cents a pound upon delivery and when he is ready to sell he can ask the Association to quote him the highest price it can secure for his cotton. He can then ask his local cotton buyer or cotton mill for a price, and if the price quoted him on the outside is better than what the Association can offer, the farmer can get his cotton back and sell it to the one offering the most money. "Never again," Mr. Mann said, "will any farmer be forced to sell his cotton without knowing just as much about its grade and staple value as the man who buys it knows."

## SKINNERSVILLE

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Swain and son, of Greensville, spent Thanksgiving with Mrs. Henrietta Swain and family. Those attending the football game at Wake Forest last Thursday and the guests of George Holton and Fred Bateman were Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Holton and William Spruill and Francis Everett. Aumack Everett, of Fort Monroe, Va., and Mrs. Ben Snell, of Norfolk, were here Thanksgiving the guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Everett. Wendell Spruill is leaving for Camp Monroe this week after a 60-day furlough at home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Spruill. Mr. and Mrs. Bingham Alexander and baby, and Mrs. M. J. Alexander and daughter, Miss Inez Alexander, and Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Chesson and daughter, of Pleasant Grove, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Walter White.

## MRS. B. O. BISHOP HOSTESS AT DINNER THURSDAY

One of the most delightful parties of the Thanksgiving holidays was given Thursday evening, when Mrs. B. O. Bishop charmingly entertained at a dinner party complimentary to her house guests, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ludford, of Norfolk.

When all had arrived a most refreshing beverage was served, followed by a sumptuous chicken salad plate with ribbon sandwiches and coffee, with a dessert of applesauce cake topped with whipped cream and nuts.

Mrs. J. S. Brown made high score for the ladies playing bridge, and Mr. W. C. Burnham held high among the men bridge players. Both received attractive prizes. Mrs. Moyer Spruill won the traveling prize. Mrs. J. T. Terry made the high score for ladies at set-back and Mr. Paul Ludford for men, and to each was given an attractive prize. Mr. and Mrs. Ludford received guest of honor prizes also.

## MRS. H. A. LIVERMAN HOSTESS TO BRIDGE CLUB

Contract bridge was enjoyed Friday evening when Mrs. H. A. Liverman was hostess to the Ace of Clubs bridge club at her home on Washington Street. Late summer roses and narcissus were used effectively as decorations in the living room, where tables were appointed for the play.

A refreshing beverage was served during the play and at the conclusion of the game frozen heavenly hash with wafers, canapes, and toast and pecans with hot coffee were enjoyed. Mrs. W. C. Jones won high score for club members and Mrs. Henry S. Midgett for guests. Mrs. W. L. Whitley held low score. All were awarded attractive prizes. Invited guests other than the club members were Mesdames Henry A. Blount and H. S. Midgett.

# May Refinance County Bonded Indebtedness

## COTTON CROP OF STATE SMALLEST OF MANY YEARS

### Mann Says It Is Folly To Dump Cotton on Market Too Rapidly

Pointing out that North Carolina's estimated cotton crop of 615,000 bales is the smallest in more than a quarter of a century, M. G. Mann, general manager of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Co-operative Association, has warned farmers that "it is folly to dump your cotton on the market without regard for the highest price plus your full premiums for better grades and staples."

"With such a short crop staring us in the face, far-sighted farmers certainly should strive to get every dollar they can for their cotton," Mr. Mann said. "This cannot be accomplished by 'dumping.'" Pointing out that 70 percent of the North Carolina crop is running 15-16 and better in length and that more than 35 percent of the crop is above middling, Mr. Mann said that it is good business for the farmer to market his crop orderly and in such a manner as to get the full premium for his better grades and staples. "Our deliveries are running ahead of last year, and this in the face of a short crop," Mr. Mann said. He attributed the increase in deliveries to the Repurchase Pool, announced by the Cotton Association this year for the first time.

Under the "Re-Purchase Pool" plan a farmer can place his cotton with the association where it will be classed according to government standards. He can draw an advance of 10 cents a pound upon delivery and when he is ready to sell he can ask the Association to quote him the highest price it can secure for his cotton. He can then ask his local cotton buyer or cotton mill for a price, and if the price quoted him on the outside is better than what the Association can offer, the farmer can get his cotton back and sell it to the one offering the most money. "Never again," Mr. Mann said, "will any farmer be forced to sell his cotton without knowing just as much about its grade and staple value as the man who buys it knows."

## Charles M. Johnson Invited To Meeting Of County Board

### Hope To Devise Means of Financing New School At Creswell

An invitation has been extended to Charles M. Johnson, of Raleigh, secretary of the local government commission, to attend a meeting of the Washington County Commissioners in the near future to discuss a system of refinancing the county's bonded indebtedness with a view toward getting funds for a new school building in Creswell.

More than a year ago specifications and plans and an application for a loan and grant of \$100,000 through the FERA was placed with Julian Gibbs, district director of the government agency, who sent it through to the state officials and who, in turn, placed it with the finance committee of the Federal government.

However, nothing definite has been learned about the status of the matter until H. H. McLean, superintendent of public instruction, and P. H. Darden, member of the board of education, went to Raleigh last week for the purpose of learning something on which to rely. They found that the State FERA had approved enough projects to take care of the allotment for this state, thus leaving out the Creswell school.

After a discussion of the matter, the school officials found themselves utterly helpless in the matter, so they turned to the Washington County Commissioners for aid in the matter. The commissioners were also visited by a delegation from Creswell with J. W. Starr as the leader. The commissioners promised them something would be done about the matter.

Realizing they were in default on bonds and interest the commissioners have asked Mr. Johnson to come down here and help them out of the dilemma. They wish a scheme for reorganization and refinancing of the county's indebtedness in order to be allowed the privilege of issuing bonds for the purpose of securing funds for use in constructing a school building in Creswell that will be adequate for the large number of children that attend that school in crowded conditions daily.

Unless some local system can be arranged for financing the school, these Creswell people face a dark future for education. Crowded school rooms, an ill-kept building that needs repairs and improvements to make more comfortable, are the causes of this request from the Creswell folk who want equal privileges with Plymouth and Roper for their pupils.

## IN THE AIR

Brisk trading in the downtown area of Plymouth lends to the fact that Christmas will soon be here.

Only 15 trading days remain before the holiday festival is here. Merchants here are ready for the shoppers. Shelves are piled high with bargains. Counters are arranged with attractive merchandise priced very reasonably. The trading event of the year is on. It will continue to gain impetus as the day nears.

Cold weather adds to the Christmas atmosphere. Gaily decorated windows and stores add to the lustre of the occasion. Merchants here are pushing their sales to the limit, urging people to pay a deposit for merchandise they wish for Christmas.

Christmas is in the air.

## Peanut Picker, 103 Bags Peanuts Are Destroyed by Fire

### Owner Believes Blaze Was Of Incendiary Origin; \$1,000 Loss

Damage estimated at more than \$1,000 was done when the peanut picker owned by John Atamanchuk burned last Thursday on a farm at Garrett's Island, near Plymouth.

The picker itself was badly damaged, with all of the wooden parts, including the frame, destroyed. Hay and 103 bags of peanuts valued at close to \$400 was also burned. The peanuts were owned jointly by R. W. Johnston and Claude Spruill. The picker was on the farm now occupied by Mr. Spruill.

Mr. Atamanchuk alleges that the fire was of incendiary origin and that he had been advised through his wife by a competitor that unless he charged the price of 25 cents a bag for threshing the peanuts that something might happen to his machine. He was doing the work for 20 cents a bag, like some of the others.

Mr. Atamanchuk sent his son, Mike, to the picker early in the morning to prepare to move the machine to another field. The young man found it in a blaze. Mr. Atamanchuk says he took the usual precautions to prevent fire by sweeping the hay away and removing from around the picker anything that was dry and that could be easily fired.

Officers here have not issued any papers in connection with the fire, although it is expected that an investigation will be made to determine if some one did purposely start the blaze. Some of those at the fire intimated that the fire burned like one that was started by gasoline and it spread rapidly with rolls of thick smoke whirling into the sky.

## MISS AGATHIA HAIRE AND MR. PAUL PHELPS WED

Creswell—Miss Agathia Haire, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Haire, and Paul Phelps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Linwood Phelps, were quietly married at his home Sunday by Rev. T. F. Davenport. The bride wore a brown crepe suit with matching accessories. They will make their home near Cherry. Those present at the ceremony were Irving Ambrose, Melvin Davenport, Misses Thelma Haire, Beedie and Verdine Ambrose.

## MRS. H. A. LIVERMAN HOSTESS TO BRIDGE CLUB

Contract bridge was enjoyed Friday evening when Mrs. H. A. Liverman was hostess to the Ace of Clubs bridge club at her home on Washington Street. Late summer roses and narcissus were used effectively as decorations in the living room, where tables were appointed for the play.

A refreshing beverage was served during the play and at the conclusion of the game frozen heavenly hash with wafers, canapes, and toast and pecans with hot coffee were enjoyed. Mrs. W. C. Jones won high score for club members and Mrs. Henry S. Midgett for guests. Mrs. W. L. Whitley held low score. All were awarded attractive prizes. Invited guests other than the club members were Mesdames Henry A. Blount and H. S. Midgett.

## Community Sing Here December 22

### A community sing will be held in Plymouth Sunday afternoon, December 22. Program and place of meeting will be announced later. Those wishing further information may apply to Mrs. W. V. Hays.

Fifteen Henderson County poultrymen will keep accurate flock records with their poultry this year for the extension service of State College.