

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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ANCIENT CHURCH NEAR CRESWELL IS STILL IN USE

History of Church Will Be Reviewed At Service There Sunday

By the side of the road beneath a bower of ancient trees nestles a little church from which will be heard the intonations of worshippers on the first Sunday in June when the devout from this section will gather in St. David's Episcopal Church, near Creswell.

Prior to the sermon, Rev. John W. Hardy, rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Creswell, will recall to the congregation the true story of the founding of this chapel by Rev. Charles Pettigrew back in 1799 when this man served as minister and physician for the people in that parish.

They called it then Pettigrew's Chapel in honor of the founder, who, also bore the expense of building it. Later the minister was elected as the first bishop of the diocese of North Carolina but died at Belgrade across the road from the little sanctuary before he was consecrated.

After Rev. Pettigrew passed away his descendants and those of Josiah Collins continued the little church. Bishop Strange wrote of the Pettigrews and Collins as follows, "The were the center of hospitality, wealth, culture and piety, living like princes on the banks of Lake Phelps working their own slaves."

Every foot of the lumber used in the little church was carefully inspected. It is in a cruciform shape. All the beautiful furnishings are hand carved. The chancel window was described by Mrs. M. B. Webb in 1899 as "a work of art, of Moaisic design, and is rich and chaste in coloring." Beneath it is a memorial to Charles Pettigrew.

A beautiful Bible and prayer book with brass catches were presented to St. David's church in 1885 by Annie Blount Shepard Pettigrew, a communicant. The chalice and paten of solid silver were presented Easter Sunday, 1856, by Mrs. Jane Carolina Pettigrew. They are still used at St. David's and at Christ Church, Creswell.

The original chalice and paten is believed to be of pewter and is said to have been donated to a mission near St. David's.

The Collins and Pettigrews gave several acres of land around the church for a cemetery and for a rectory which was constructed and it was vainly hoped that a parochial school would be built.

As time passed the little town grew larger and it was decided to build a church there so that it would be more accessible. Dempsey Spruill offered to build a cement road from Creswell to St. David's, a distance of about three miles or more to prevent this move, but the little country church went to town.

A. G. Walker, W. J. Mercer, M. M. Alexander, T. A. Swain, and D. E. Woodley secured a lot in Creswell and in 1898 Christ church was completed and consecrated in a pouring rain by Bishop A. W. Watson. Mrs. Mary Alice Walker presented a Bible and prayer book to this church. Rev. Jack Johnson was the last rector to occupy the old rectory.

During 1918, Dempsey Spruill donated \$2,000 to have the necessary repairs made to old St. David's. D. E. Woodley, Mrs. Ida Hassell and C. A. Swain were in charge of this work. Two tablets placed in the old church remind one of Dempsey Spruill and Rev. Luther Eborn, a minister. Morning Services are held in St. David's in June, July and August.

The first ministerial work recorded on the parish register at St. David's was in 1836, but mention is made of an earlier record. Ministers serving this parish from the founder include the following: Revs. Edward M. Forbes, Charles Aldis, John S. Viding, J. Avery Shepherd, Joseph Murphy, L. S. Ives (then Bishop of N. C.), Rev. A. A. Watson, George Paterson, (also rector of Collin's slaves); William S. Pettigrew, Luther Brown, H. G. Hilton, Luther Eborn, (recalled and served 35 years); A. W. Watson, (Presbyterian lawyer-tutor to Collins boys was consecrated at the rail of St. David's); Jack Johnson, and Christ Church, Creswell; Jos. N. Bynum, C. C. Kelsey, Charles E. Williams and Theodore Patrick, jr.

From out of this humble St. David's church has grown the St. Andrew's Church in Columbia, founded as a mission in 1905. Then the pretty and well-attended Christ Church in Creswell and the Galilee Mission on Lake Phelps, started in 1922, and services were first held in a hospital that was built for slaves in the time of the renowned Collins, now Miss Lona Weatherly

Farm Notes

By W. V. HAYS, County Agent

Mr. Garrett, a member of the firm of wine manufacturers in New York City that operated the winery in Plymouth years ago, was in the county office one day this week for some information on the possibilities of reviving the grape industry in Washington County. Mr. Garrett wishes to secure the services of some one who would assemble the grapes in the county for shipment to New York. It seems that prices will be some better than a dollar for grapes this fall f.o.b. the farm. This buyer will contact as many of the farmers as possible before the season starts and make arrangements for buying grapes. It seems that plans are under way for establishing a plant at Williamston, where grapes will be crushed and treated with a preservative and shipped to storage plants and manufacturing plants in New York for wine making. Scuppernon grapes seem naturally adapted to soils and conditions as we have in Washington County and it might pay for farmers in this section to consider grapes as a crop in view of the revival of the wine-making industry.

Mr. Hilton, district manager of the FCX service, has established a retail store connection with Mr. Jno. J. Chesson at Roper. Mr. Chesson will act as retail dealers for patrons of the FCX service and the Roper community and throughout the county. Mr. Hilton said that he hoped to establish a similar store at Plymouth.

A number of peanut farmers have gotten the idea from buyers of peanuts this past year that an additional payment would be made to them by the government on peanuts produced during the crop year of 1935. This statement was misleading and no payment will be secured unless peanuts were diverted to oil mills or unless an application is signed in which case the payment will be made as any other crop will be paid for under the new program and after the land has been measured in the fall. This payment will be on an acre basis and will not be on a poundage of peanuts sold. The pounds of peanuts sold per acre will however, govern the rate of pay per acre.

The new sign-up by farmers in Washington County was assuredly a success. The first week we secured about 25 per cent sign up, the second week about 55 per cent, and the third week we had over 72 per cent. A number of our farmers are missing a good thing by not making application for a grant under the new program. This is strictly voluntary, and we have used every method we know to secure an application from every farmer in the County. Any one who can do so is urged to go to the county office and make applications before Saturday of this week. We must have all the applications in by June 6, as these must be tabulated and forwarded to Washington.

Lloyd Horton Out Of Race For House

Below is a prepared announcement that J. Lloyd Horton issued to the press when he announced his withdrawal from the race of representatives from Washington County: "After announcing my candidacy for the general assembly in this primary, I have acquired a milling operation here which will require all of my time. I have carefully considered the matter and have decided to withdraw from this race. "I am grateful to my many friends who have expressed their willingness to support me. I am now very much interested in the candidacy of my friend, Harry Stell. I shall support him and am anxious for as many of you to give him your support as will."

Dr. W. H. Hardison was an eminent communicant of St. David's as well as the father and family of H. G. Walker. The following came out from the congregations that gathered in old St. David's to bless the world with their ministry: Revs. A. A. Watson, William S. Pettigrew and Hardy Phelps.

Mrs. T. C. Holmes has written a beautiful and graphic history of this parish and provided the information for this sketch which of necessity must be shortened from the original eleven pages by Mrs. T. C. Holmes.

It should also be mentioned that during the fierce struggle between the States that Union and Confederate soldiers alike found shelter in this old church.

BAPTIST MEET IS HELD SUNDAY AT COUNTY CHURCH

Next Meeting Will Be Held At Belhaven Church on August 30

Choice of Belhaven Baptist church and the time as August 30 for the next meeting was made by the Pamlico Baptist Association which met in the Creswell Baptist church during the week-end.

More than 200 delegates attended from Belhaven, Columbia, Creswell, Englehard, Fairfield, Gum Neck, Mt. Pleasant, North Lake, Oak Grove, Pantego, Pinetown, Roper, Rose Bay, South Side, Swan Quarter, Travis, Sound Shore, Sladesville in the Washington, Tyrrell, Hyden and Beaufort Counties.

The Sunday school lesson was taught by J. W. Hamilton and J. E. Norris, of Columbia, explained how the Sunday school helped build the church. Dr. G. A. Martin, Creswell, spoke on "The Great Teacher." The sermon on "Behold the Lamb of God," was by Rev. J. J. Johnson, of Belhaven.

R. L. Leitchfield, Creswell, reported on Sunday school work, while Mrs. J. G. Brickhouse, Columbia, told of the Baptist Training Union work, mentioning nine working units with 121 members. Mrs. J. J. Johnson, Belhaven, introduced the officers and reported on the Woman's Missionary Union.

Officers of the association are E. R. Stewart, Fairfield, moderator; R. R. L. Leitchfield, Creswell, vice moderator; J. E. Norris, Columbia, clerk treasurer with an executive committee as follows: Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Johnson, Belhaven; Gilbert Brickhouse, Emanuel Bateman, J. E. Norris, W. W. Sawyer, Columbia; Capt. R. W. Jones, Fairfield; Dr. G. A. Martin and H. W. Spruill, Creswell.

Committees: Finance, H. R. Stillman, H. W. Spruill and R. S. Furlough, Creswell; time and place, J. J. Johnson, Belhaven, Lloyd Norman and Chester Hopkins, Creswell; resolutions, J. L. Chestnut, Belhaven; W. W. Sawyer, Columbia; and C. C. Cahoon, Creswell.

Rev. John Howard Poteat, 69, Dies at Home Here Monday

Funeral Held in Whiteville Tuesday Afternoon; Died Suddenly

Funeral services were held Tuesday for Rev. John Howard Poteat, 69, who died suddenly here Monday from apoplexy. He was in the ministry for 37 years, retiring five years ago and entering the hardware business in Whiteville. He has owned a brick kiln in Plymouth for the last two years.

He has been pastor of Baptist churches in Whiteville, Como, Greenville, Florida, and Columbia, N. C. He was a graduate of the Union Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky. His health caused him to retire from the ministry, but he continued to preach at ear-by mission points and to accept invitations to pulpits.

Burial was to take place in the New Hope cemetery at Whiteville Tuesday afternoon, with Rev. I. T. Newton and Rev. W. J. Russell, of Whiteville, officiating. Surviving is a widow, and also the following children: Maurice Poteat, Plymouth; W. L. Poteat, Tarboro; Mrs. R. B. Sears, Gates; Mrs. S. L. Neeley, of Whiteville.

Baby Contest To Close Friday, 5th

The baby contest sponsored by the "Willing Workers" Class of the Christian church will come to a close Friday, June 5. There has been arranged an attractive musical program to be given at 8 p. m. at the local high school to make the closing a colorful event. The babies who entered the contest will be asked to go on the stage and the winner will receive their awards, which were given by several local business institutions, and are displayed now in the window of Liverman's Department Store. Do not let your favorite baby lose. Boxes are found in many stores and public places down town, in order that you may cast your vote.

Education Day Observed In Creswell Last Week

Creswell.—Mrs. Louise Forehand and her pupils observed education day here Tuesday afternoon of last week. Community singing was conducted by Rev. O. L. Easter. There were many beautiful exhibits on display. Ice cream was served.

ABOUT TOWN

A drop from about 800 in 1933 to 200 in 1936 in the tomato acreage in Washington County was cited today by W. T. Freeman, who gets about the county pretty much. It is his opinion that they will not be harvested for shipping purposes until about July 1. They have been shipped as early as June 17 from here. Dry weather and other adverse circumstances are blamed. Maryland growers flood the market about the time these will be ready, and it is feared that the price will be low.

Something new in big-time truck cropping in Washington County is the production of cucumbers for pickling purposes in a big way. Ira J. Alligood, of near Creswell, has 12 acres planted and they are doing good. He is lined up with a market for these vegetables. Maybe some pickling concern is interested.

Despite adverse conditions John Spruill in the White Chapel section near Creswell has watermelons "hilled out and doing nicely." This was true on May 28. He hopes to have melons ready for selling by July 4. This is the usual date in some places but it is an early date around here. Most of them are around the middle of July.

Graham Martin, son of Dr. and Mrs. G. A. Martin, of Creswell, was in Plymouth this week. He is an assistant to John G. Winnan, chairman of the Social Security Board in Washington, D. C. His work before going with the pension organization was that of journalist, having worked on a number of newspapers in this State.

Custom-made eggs. That is what Dr. T. L. Bray claims for one of his hens.

Only the other day an egg was laid in the shape of a gourd, with a neck on the end so that it could be held easily. Another egg had a curlicue on it. "Nothing but a mongrel hen, but she lays them according to order," smiled Doc.

A. H. Hicks, of Whitakers, and C. J. Harris, of Raleigh are here working with the Rural Resettlement Administration. The former is attending to the business end by adjusting accounts of the clients, while Mr. Harris is serving as auditor. They are now engaged in collecting and arranging the business done for last year with the farmers under this organization. They are using the office of Mr. Hutchinson.

R. W. Phelps, of Creswell, was here last week. He told of the bears that are roaming the fields in his section and preying on crops and hogs and livestock. It was said that some of the animals have been slain by workmen on the Newlands road when they ventured forth for water and food.

An announcement was made by L. W. Anderson, principal of the Plymouth schools during the commencement exercises, that Virginia Spruill, daughter of Mrs. Kathleen Spruill, made the highest mark during her three years here, but that on account of the fact that she had only attended the local school three out of her four years in high school that she was not eligible for the honor as valedictorian of the senior class. The honor then was extended to Edwin McNair, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. McNair.

G. E. Stewart and W. S. Hunt agree that motor vehicle operators must get their driver's license. They are working hard with local law enforcers to see that this is done. Among those who have gotten tickets for not having their driver's license are T. M. Forehand, Chowan County; Misses Helen Hassell and Josephine Davenport, Creswell; Carl Brey, jr., Roper.

T. B. Houston, of Washington, D. C., retired employee of the Government Printing Office, was in Plymouth today telling of the time when he operated the Roanoke Beacon, back in 1888. He lived in Roanoke, Va., for 21 years after leaving here and then went to the National Capital, where he lived until retirement three years ago. He was born in Hertford County.

John White, of Edenhouse, in Bertie County, was here with T. B. Houston. He told of how his mother, Mrs. J. J. White, of Bertie, had moved to Norfolk, losing the acquaintance of Mr. Houston. After 34 years they met again this week, and he came with Mr. Houston to visit friends here, including Mrs. Mattie Ausbon and her family and Mr. and Mrs. C. V. W. Ausbon.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Ramsey and Mrs. Mattie Ausbon motored to Richmond recently, where they saw Edwin McHugh, gospel singer, who

DR. MCGOWAN IS NAMED MEMBER BOARD HEALTH

Succeeds Dr. Gibson; Paramore Named to School Committee Here

Dr. C. McGowan has been named a member of the Washington County Board of Health to succeed Dr. W. T. Gibson, of Roper, who has moved to Severn.

Members of the board now are J. M. Clagon, chairman of commissioners, H. H. McLean, superintendent of schools, Gilbert Davis, mayor of Plymouth, Dr. W. H. Johnson and now Dr. McGowan. All of the terms expire in 1937.

Walter H. Paramore, local newspaperman, was named a member of the school committee to succeed Dr. McGowan. J. R. Campbell and E. F. Still are the other members of the school committee. Terms of these also expire in 1937.

Dr. McGowan is commander of the local post of the American Legion and is past councillor of the Junior Order as well as a widely known and popular physician.

Lettuce and Celery Venture Abandoned On Somerset Farm

Adverse Weather Cause of Big Loss; Corn Planted On Acreage

Adverse weather conditions caused the abandonment of the lettuce and celery venture on the famous Somerset farm near Creswell. Hundreds of dollars was expended in an effort to get the plants to grow properly. Dry weather has been the main cause. Corn has been planted on 75 acres of the ground.

However, those who have a lease on more than a hundred acres down there for that purpose will try again with a fall crop. This crop is to be planted in July and is expected to be ready to harvest in October. Folk in that section will not reap the benefits that they hoped by securing employment and such.

It has been rumored that the officials of the Lindsley Ice Company in Williamston will experiment with five acres in lettuce and celery in the fall crop. They will have their plants on the famous Magnolia farm in Tyrrell County, which is divided from the other experiment by a canal.

Funeral Held for Mrs. S. D. Brinkley

Funeral services were held Monday for Mrs. Sally Doughtie Brinkley, 62, who succumbed Monday after a lingering illness of some time. She had never fully recovered from a hip injury more than a year ago.

Last rites were held in the Baptist church here, of which she was a member, with Rev. N. A. Taylor, Christian; Rev. C. T. Thrift, Methodist; Rev. Gilbert Davis, Christian, assisting Rev. R. H. Lucas, pastor of the Baptist church. Burial took place in the Windley cemetery near here.

Her husband, E. M. Brinkley died 12 years ago and her only child, Jessie May Brinkley, died two years ago. Her nearest living relatives are a niece, Mrs. Louise Peel, Plymouth; and Miss Virginia Doughtie, Washington, D. C.; and Carlyle Doughtie, Plymouth.

Roper Faculty For Next Year Named

Faculty members selected by the Roper school committee for next year are: D. E. Poole, principal; R. B. Forbes, Edwin Burche, C. H. Floyd and Cordula Lanier, of Hickory, a new teacher for the high school; and Mrs. E. L. Owens, Miss A. C. Carstarphen, Miss Margaret Davenport, Miss Carolyn Brooks, Miss Naomi Lee Gibson, of Laurinburg, a new teacher.

First and second grade teachers have not been named. Broadcasts over a national network regularly. Mrs. Ausbon had expressed a desire to meet the singer in person and they were introduced in the Richmond studios.

Home and Club News

By Mary Frances Misenheimer

Monday, Busy Bee Club. Tuesday, Hoke Club. Wednesday, Roper club. Thursday, Chapel Hill. Friday, Beech Grove. Saturday, curb market, 8:15. Curb market sales were led by Mrs. R. W. Lewis, of Cross Roads Club. Second highest was Mrs. Joe Snell, of Cool Springs Club.

On visiting the Cross Road club last week I saw how smart the club members were. Most every member reported a large amount of food canned and clothing made. Mrs. J. W. Marrow and Mrs. R. W. Lewis' chickens showed the work that these two have been doing. Other club members have pretty chickens, but just those two homes were visited and chickens inspected.

The Cool Springs Club can be proud of their club as they are steadily growing. A large number was present at the last meeting. The leaders certainly do their part in the club. The members are always willing to follow so that makes a good club. Mrs. Hayes reported having plenty of string beans out of her garden.

Members of the Piney Frove club attend their club meeting, regardless of the work that is needed to be done at home. They are interested in their club meetings and enjoy them a lot. Their secretary, Mrs. Sadie Stillman, never misses a meeting.

Mrs. George Bowen is getting seven different vegetables from her garden now. She has had plenty of string beans—even enough to sell some to her neighbors.

The meeting on the Lake Farm was held at Mrs. Sawyer's—a recreational meeting was enjoyed by a large number present. Some visitors from Mount Tabor Club were there.

The girls going to White Lake be at the courthouse early Monday morning, June 8th. We want to leave at 9 o'clock, promptly. If there are any changes in the plans of leaving you will be notified by Friday.

Financial Report of Holly Neck Church

The Holly Neck Christian church is rendering for the first time a financial report of its organization during the tenure of Rev. M. L. Ambrose, as pastor, beginning January, 1934.

From January to November, 1934, the pastor received \$130, while general expenses were \$24.87, making a total of \$174.87 for 1934, while expenses from November 25, 1934, until May 24, 1936, were: pastor's salary, \$322.80; and general expense of \$84.79, totaling \$407.59. Adding \$407.59 and \$174.89, thus making a total paid in full up to May 24, 1936, at \$582.46. The ladies' aid reported \$42.26 for years of '31, '32, and '33, with expenses of only \$4.29, making a total of \$37.97.

The report is signed by Mrs. J. Wilson Chesson, president of the council and aid society, and Tom Basnight, church clerk. J. S. Davenport asked that the report be published.

Jamesville Boy Wins Junior Order Medal

A delegation from Plymouth Rock Council of the Junior Order United American Mechanics attended the senior class night exercises at Jamesville high school last week and presented a gold pin to Alexander Corey for writing the best paper on patriotism.

Dr. C. McGowan, past councillor, in an appropriate speech presented the award. Every senior competed. The three best papers were by Nancy Coltrain, Beulah Marie Hardison (read by Hubert Ange), and Alexander Corey. Judges selecting the winner were Dr. McGowan and J. E. Uzzle and Miss Hilda Modlin, of Jamesville.

Present from the local council were Dr. McGowan, R. A. Tetterton, Robert Tetterton, H. H. Allen, A. R. Modlin, R. G. Hardison, Clarence Alexander, R. C. Jackson, Charlie Gurkin and M. G. Darden.

ALL READY FOR BALLOTS BATTLE IN JUNE PRIMARY

Main Question To Be Settled Is Who Will Be in Second Round?

Who will be in the second primary? That question will be answered in full by qualified voters in Washington County when they cast their ballots Saturday in the Democratic primary to determine the leaders and the runners-up. State and county officers will be voted on.

The line-up follows: Commissioners: (vote for one in each district) district No. 1, Frank L. Brinkley, P. M. Arps, Sidney A. Ward, sr., and Luther W. Gurkin; district No. 2, Roy Stillman and J. M. Clagon; district No. 3, Clyde Smithson, E. F. (Ed) Swain and Jordan Alexander.

Board of education: (vote for three) R. C. (Dick) Peacock, P. H. Darden, W. L. Whitley, C. N. (Mike) Davenport, jr., L. E. Hassell, Paul Belanga.

Representative: Harry Stell and A. L. Owens. Lloyd Horton has withdrawn from the race. Treasurer: J. Robert Campbell, Stuart D. Davis, W. E. Blount, W. T. (Tom) Freeman, James A. (Jim) Chesson, and W. L. Hassell.

Register of Deeds: Mrs. Mary Smith Cahoon and Mrs. Mattie R. Swain.

Coroner: W. H. (Jack) Peele, William S. Nurney, and Walter W. White.

Recorder: Zeb Vance Norman and John W. Darden.

State senate, second senatorial district (vote for two): Carl L. Bailey, Robert L. Coburn, Julius Dees, W. B. Rodman, jr., and T. B. Attmore.

United States Senator: William H. Griffin, Josiah W. Bailey, Richard T. Fountain and David L. Strain.

Governor: John A. McRae, Clyde R. Hoey, Ralph W. McDonald, A. H. (Sandy) Graham.

Lieutenant Governor: Paul Grady Wilkins P. Horton and George McNeill.

Secretary of State: Stacey W. Wade, Thad Eure, M. R. (Mike) Dunnagan.

Auditor: Willard L. Dowell, Chas. L. Miller, George Ross Pou, Baxter Durham.

Treasurer: Helen Robertson Wohl and Charles M. Johnson.

Superintendent of public instruction: Clyde A. Erwin, A. B. Alderman and Gilbert Craig.

Commissioner of Agriculture: W. Kerr Scott and William A. Graham.

SOIL CONSERVING PAYMENT RATES FOR THE COUNTY

Farmers Will Get Around \$9 An Acre for Other Than Main Crops

The average rate of the soil-conserving payment under the 1936 farm program in Washington County has been fixed at \$8.90 per acre, according to Dean I. O. Schaub, of State College.

This rate applies to general soil-depleting crops other than cotton, tobacco and peanuts, the dean said, and will vary with individual the average productivity of general soil-depleting crops in that county. The rate for an individual farm will be above or below the county farms.

The general rate for each county has been determined according to rate in the same proportion that the productivity of general soil-depleting crops on the farm is above or below the county average. The general productivity of each farm will be based upon the average past yields of soil-depleting crops other than cotton, tobacco and peanuts. For tobacco, and cotton the rate of payment has been fixed at five cents a pound on the average tobacco and cotton yields of the farm. The rate for peanuts is 1 1/4 cents a pound.

The soil-conserving payment will be made for shifting land from soil-depleting into soil-conserving crops this year. A farmer who takes high productive land out of cash crops and puts it into soil-conserving crops is making a bigger sacrifice than the farmer whose land is low in productivity. For this reason, the dean explained, the rates of payment have been based on the productivity of the land.

Celery is being grown as a demonstration in Washington County on a fairly large scale this year.