

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 XLVIII—NUMBER 10 Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Friday, March 19, 1937 ESTABLISHED 1889

TRUCK DRIVER IS FOUND GUILTY OF HITTING OFFICER

Hiram White Appeals from Judgment of Recorder John W. Darden

Bond of \$200 was posted Tuesday for the appearance of Hiram White, 28, of Travis, Tyrrell County, in the Washington County Superior Court when it convenes here in July after he was found guilty by Recorder J. W. Darden of negligence of duty in driving an automobile.

The court offered White his choice of a fine of \$100 and costs; or an order to pay direct to the injured man, Seaton Davenport, former chief of police of Creswell, \$100 for his use. The defendant refused the second offer and appealed from the fine.

Willis Owen, youth who was riding in the truck with White when he was said to have run over Davenport, seriously injuring him, was exonerated of a charge of aiding and abetting in the negligence and concealing the identity of White.

His exoneration was brought about when it was found that he was asleep at the time. Gus Owens, who owned the truck, was also dismissed from a similar charge. Officers of Tyrrell and Washington County testified that White had an excellent reputation.

Davenport, on the stand, told that he was on the way home from Creswell on October 22, 1936, after midnight, walking along the right side of the road when lights from an approaching car blinded him and then he was knocked unconscious by some object.

Sam Alexander, who operated a filling station near which the truck driven by White was found, told of finding the shoe lost from a crushed foot of Davenport. Rev. Roy Respass told of accompanying Raymond Bateman to the place of the injured man at 4:45 a. m.

Deputy Sheriff W. D. Peal, of Creswell, who investigated the incident next morning, said that White made the following statement to him when interviewed: "I saw an object in the road through the fog, and I couldn't tell whether it was a man or a dog. I stopped down the road and awoke Willis (Owens was a passenger with him in the cab of a heavy truck with a trailer) and told him that I had run over an object and was afraid to go back and investigate."

The brown tennis shoe to match the one that was found by the side of Davenport in the road was never seen again by Mr. Alexander after Gus Owens had picked up the shoe from in front of the filling station. The truck was said to have weighed, with its load, 6,000 pounds.

Recorder Darden expressed the belief in view of the evidence that there was no overt act committed by White in connection with the incident, as witnesses testified the night was foggy, but he said that White was guilty of failing to stop and render assistance to the injured man after he had suspected an accident.

FUNERAL IS HELD SUNDAY FOR MRS. CLARA A. CRAFT

Died Last Friday After Illness of Week With Pneumonia

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon for Mrs. Clara Allen Craft, 35, who died last Friday after an illness of only a week caused by pneumonia and complications. Rev. N. A. Taylor, of the Plymouth Christian church, officiated. Interment took place in the Jamesville Baptist cemetery.

Surviving is a husband, C. C. Craft, and the following children: Cecil, jr., (a step-son), Edward, Evelyn, Mildred Craft; a mother, Mrs. J. B. Allen, Jamesville; sisters, Mrs. Leon Herring and Mrs. Louis Herring, LaGrange; Mrs. S. F. Darden, Plymouth; Mrs. J. H. Burnette, Jamesville; brothers, T. R. Allen, High Point; W. H. Allen, LaGrange.

Pall-bearers were J. F. Ausbon, J. E. Outten, Hubert Allen, Sewell Bowen, P. W. Brown, Tully Allen, with children from the first, sixth and eighth grades carrying the flowers. There was a large crowd attending and a massive heap of flowers.

Invitation To Speak Here in April Accepted by Governor

Governor Clyde R. Hoey has been extended an invitation, and has accepted, to be the principal speaker at the semi-annual meeting of the Southern Albemarle Association, to be held in Plymouth on April 29.

The invitation was extended to the governor by C. W. Tatem, of Columbia, president of the association, which includes members from Washington, Tyrrell, Dare and Hyde Counties. This date is subject to change, but it is expected that this date will be maintained.

Charles M. Johnson, state treasurer, will be here also, and will probably introduce the governor to the 1,000 or more people expected to attend. However, only about 40 from each of the member counties will be entertained as delegates.

Vice presidents of the association include John W. Darden, Plymouth, Washington County; W. W. Watson, of Lake Landing, Hyde; C. Earl Cahoon, Columbia, Tyrrell; Melvin R. Daniels, Manteo, Dare.

Mr. Darden will act as chairman of the program committee and will write to the other vice presidents and ask that they submit any part of the program that they wish, and that he will arrange the program. Dinner will be served to the delegates.

First Pulp Wood Is Delivered at Plant

Our first load of hogs was shipped out of Plymouth on Wednesday, March 3. A total of 114 heavy hogs weighing better than 30,000 pounds were sold at Plymouth on this date.

Five bids were secured on the hogs, the high bidder being the Wilmington Provision Co., at Wilmington, Del. On Monday, March 8, two more cars were sold here and were bought by D. M. Roberson at Williamston for Kingan & Co., Richmond. About 16 farmers have participated in the shipments and seemed well pleased with prices received. We will have about 6 cars to load here on the 16th and 17th. This cooperative selling of hogs will prove very popular, it seems, from the number of inquiries we are having concerning this method of selling hogs. We hope that this cooperative selling, besides making better returns to the grower, will mean something in an educational way along better feeding lines and in bringing out a type of hog better suited to the manufacture of corn into pork.

Those having hogs for sale should notify the county office at least a week in advance so preparations can be made for the handling of these hogs and also that we might be better able to secure bids on the hogs.

Anyone passing out the Long Acre Road should stop at Tim Bowen's place and look at the forestry demonstration. Trees on this plot have been removed possibly a little more than that recommended, but some of the trees taken out were diseased and also trees that have made a maximum growth under existing conditions. This piece of timber has been cut so as to give maximum returns as far as future growth and development of timber is concerned. Farmers having a similar age and stand of timber as this could profitably follow this example. The county agent will be glad to assist others in marking tracts for cutting.

A farm practice payment under the new farm program for 1937 can be earned by thinning ungrazed woodland according to specifications. Further information may be secured on this at the county office or from your nearest local committeeman.

This is the proper season, or it may not be too late to: Sow permanent pastures. Sow oats and lespedeza. Prune the orchard (do not cut grape vines this late). Build a brooder house and buy baby chicks.

Lespedeza Grows Best On Heavy Bottom Lands

Lespedeza grows best on medium to heavy bottom land but satisfactory yields may be obtained on most uplands. The Common, Tennessee 76, and Kobe varieties grow well in all soils of lower altitude in the mountain section, and on the slate, sand loams, black-jack lands, and red clay soils of the piedmont section. Low-lying, moderately heavy soils, river bottoms, and sandy loams are best in the coastal plains. The Korean variety is especially adapted for the mountains because of its earliness and it will produce well on practically all the better soils. Neither variety is of much value when sowed on very acid or sandy soils.

Through the increased efficiency in the use of fuel in the freight service, the railroads have saved nearly 220,000,000 tons of coal since 1922.

LOCAL SCOUTS TO ATTEND MEETING IN ROCKY MOUNT

Annual "Camporee" To Be Held on Tuesday, April 30

Boy Scouts of Washington County are expected to attend a "Camporee" in Rocky Mount April 30, according to John G. Sigwald, scout executive of the East Carolina council at Wilson, who met the conferees from here Sunday in Williamston.

Scouts from 107 troops in counties are expected to attend. All kinds of scoutcraft will be enjoyed by the boys. This is the second annual camporee with the first being held in Greenville last year. The locals, though just organizing, are eligible and are urged to attend the event.

E. W. Joyner, principal of the local school, has been named chairman of the troop committee, with Rev. N. A. Taylor, of the Christian church as scoutmaster, and Dr. A. Papineau, of the Grace Episcopal church, as assistant scoutmaster.

Hubert Allen is patrol leader for the Christian church, with W. L. Whitley as committeeman; George Barden is the Methodist patrol leader and E. W. Joyner committeeman; J. R. Carr is the Baptist committeeman, with a leader to be named later; R. A. Duvall is Episcopal committeeman, with James H. Ward as patrol leader and young Stokely as assistant.

The Men's Club of Grace Episcopal church sponsored the idea until it reached the stage of organization, and now the four churches are designated as the sponsors of the troop. Each church is to have a patrol of about 4 boys to start with, likely to be increased to 8.

Principal D. E. Poole, of the Roper school, and Rev. M. L. Ambrose are understood to be in favor of a troop in Roper. It is hoped that a troop can be started in Creswell also.

Jewelry On Credit Offered by Davis

Wishing to offer the people of this trading area every possible service and keeping step with modern trend in business methods, Don G. Davis, jeweler, has inaugurated a credit system so that the public may have the opportunity of buying his line of merchandise on easy payments.

There will be no extra charge for this accommodation, and it will make it easy for those needing merchandise to purchase same right here at home on this convenient plan. The stock has been increased to take care of the added business.

Leaders' School To Be Held March 18th

Miss Willie N. Hunter, extension specialist in clothing, from State College, Raleigh, will conduct a leaders' school for clothing leaders and all club members who are interested in new styles on March 18 at 2 o'clock in the home agent's office.

Miss Hunter always has new and interesting style hints to give. If you want to know the newest things in spring fashions be at the leaders' school.

Sunday Schools To Hold Convention

The Scuppernon Township Sunday school convention will meet with the Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist church on Sunday, March 14, at 2:30 in the afternoon.

The devotionals will be led by Mrs. Callie Swain. Rev. W. L. Jernigan will welcome the visitors, with O. D. Hatfield, of Creswell, responding. A duet is on for Misses Alethia and Eleanor Furlough. Also a dialogue will be given by the Mount Tabor Sunday school.

Moody Wins Race with Prospective School Pupil

Chicago.—A footrace between D. L. Moody, Sunday school teacher, and a prospective scholar, which led up one street and down another, into a saloon, through the barroom, up the back-stairs and finally terminated in the runaway hiding under the bed, resulted ultimately in the closing of the saloon.

DISTRICT HEAD WOMEN'S CLUBS HONORED HERE

Mrs. C. W. Beasley Speaks At Banquet on "Reward For Efficiency"

Pointing out that efficiency has replaced quantity in the modern age and that efficiency begets organization, information, inspiration, cooperation, and victory, Mrs. C. W. Beasley, 15th district president, told 75 women how to get "The Reward For Efficiency," at a banquet in her honor in the community house here Tuesday night.

"Individualism may kill an organization, but cooperation is the soul of it. Information reveals the duties of the members. Lofty ideals and worthy objective vaporize without organization. Efficiency may be trite and ragged from use, but its meaning is still important," she said.

Hostesses to the distinguished guest were the senior and junior women's clubs, Thursday Afternoon Literary Club, with Mrs. T. L. Bray, president of the senior club, as general chairman. Mrs. C. T. Thrift pronounced the invocation.

The welcome address was made by Mrs. A. Edison Davenport, with the response by Mrs. C. Y. Tilson, of the Swan Quarter junior women's club. Mrs. R. E. Dunning, of Swan Quarter, state chairman of the woman's club magazine and sponsor of a Swan Quarter club, was presented. Miss Martha Mayo presented Mrs. B. G. Campbell, state chairman of juniors, who added her greetings.

Miss Ruth Modlin sang. Mrs. W. A. Davidson presented Mrs. O. L. Williams, of Aurora, district vice president. Mrs. J. R. Campbell presented Mrs. Beasley. Miss Mary F. Misenheimer, president of the local juniors, was recognized. Miss Charlotte McNair was in charge of entertainment, with a reading by Mrs. Davenport.

A three-course dinner was served. St. Patrick's Day decorations were used. Mrs. Kathleen Spruill gave a portrait pageant under the auspices of the WPA.

Work on Renovation Of Creswell School Expected This Year

\$25,000 Loan From State Is Secured; Await WPA Approval

Work on the renovation of the Creswell school is not expected to start until this summer, according to H. H. McLean, superintendent of public instruction in Washington County.

W. H. Dietrich, architect, and W. F. Credle, of the schoolhouse planning division of the State Department of Instruction, wrote Mr. McLean that they can start work within 30 days after the Public Works Administration approves the project.

Back in November the Washington County Commissioners borrowed \$25,000 from the State Literary Fund in the State Department of Education and has now applied to the PWA for \$20,450, which make \$45,450 as the total available for the project.

The PWA has not fully approved the project, as they are still studying the matter, as is revealed in correspondence with Mr. McLean, but officials feel that the project will be approved as it is sorely needed to relieve congested conditions in the Creswell school.

Rather than to build an entirely new structure with the full amount of money, it has been planned to remodel, renovate, and repair the old building and then to erect a 10-room independent structure on the premises of the present school.

However, the architect and Mr. McLean leave the matter open so that they can rearrange the plans for the buildings should it become wise after a further study of plans.

The loan was secured on the \$25,000 from the State on November 18, and on February 1 the plans were filed with PWA officials, asking a grant of \$20,450, which it is hoped will be approved in the next few weeks so that work can start in time to complete the buildings for use next term, which starts in September.

Rail Material Cost Now Greater By \$140,865,000

Because of increased prices, the cost of materials and supplies of all kinds, including fuel, used by the railroads, is now approximately \$140,865,000 greater annually than in May, 1933.

Revaluation of All Property Is Ordered

About Town

W. W. Chesson, of Washington, is repairing and rearranging the old Pender store building on Water Street in the Leggett building, preparatory to opening a new and used furniture store, which he hopes will be in operation by April 1. He has not announced who will be associated with him.

Mrs. Rosalie Holliday, daughter of Mrs. Amelia Stillman here, who has been residing in Norfolk for some time, will be the clerk of Sam Adler, who will open here next Friday in the Ayers building on Water Street. Mrs. R. W. Wallace, jr., of Morehead City, who has been employed by Mr. Adler for years, is here helping him to arrange his opening.

The Kieckhefer Container Company hopes to have about 250,000 cords of wood on their premises when they open their pulp plant here in August. To date they have 20 cords of wood arranged alongside the tracks. They have started work on a wharf.

N. Rusos, of the Farmer's Cafe in Greenville, has leased a portion of the property and has erected a building on the premises of the fisheries operated by W. R. Hampton, where he will serve fried fish and other delicacies to the trade.

Clyde McCallum has purchased certain property between Monroe Street and the side track of the railroad before entering the property of the American Fork and Hoe Company and will probably erect a filling station on it. The property was once owned by Mary Stewart.

Byron Hawkins has replaced Bert O. Bishop as mill superintendent of the local plant of the American Fork & Hoe Company. Mr. Purdy has left as manager, but his successor has not been announced.

W. R. Hampton's fisheries will be opened Monday. C. T. Robbins, for years employed with Mr. Hampton, believes the current season will be a successful one, as all signs indicate this. Captain Askew will start his 31st year with the Hamptons, who have had the fishery in their family for upwards of 100 years.

Lumber was placed on the ground Wednesday for the beginning immediately of the construction of an annex to the Plymouth Christian church. The addition will be a 54 by 26 feet structure at the rear of the church, with the first floor having a kitchen, study and auditorium 46 by 24 feet, while the second floor will have seven classrooms and a lavatory. It will cost about \$2,000, and they wish to have it closed in for use by July 1.

The Fashion Shop, a new business in Plymouth, will open in Rene's Beauty Shop Building on Water Street next to the Chevrolet place, also next week. The building is undergoing repairs and will be painted and modernized. Mrs. James C. Smith and Mrs. W. E. Waters are partners.

One of the most beautiful and the most modern filling stations in Plymouth is the new Water Street Sinclair Service Station, which is opening Friday of this week under the supervision of J. R. Manning, with Oscar Davenport as manager.

"I have always heard," says Mrs. R. E. Dunning, of Swan Quarter, "that whoever came to Plymouth and got a taste of this water would come back for me, and I believe it, as, since I left, I always like to return at every opportunity."

Autos in Plymouth today are being parked at a 45-degree angle. This is the instruction of P. W. Brown, chief of police, who adds that the sides will be changed twice monthly. Opposites may park parallel with the curb. Motorists are urged by Mr. Brown to observe the traffic signs.

Twenty-eight people will begin reading the New Testament at 6 o'clock in the Christian church Saturday morning. They will serve at intervals and hope to finish the books by 9 p. m. at night. Rev. N. A. Taylor will be the speaker in the revival that starts on Sunday morning.

Prof. W. H. Berry will entertain 23 basketball teams from colored schools in six counties which will be entered in the northeastern athletic association tournament which will be played in the Plymouth gym Friday and Saturday. Space will be reserved for white spectators.

Assessors Appointed For Each Township; Start Work April 1

Henry C. Spruill, of Plymouth, Supervisor; Meet Next Monday

Revaluation of real estate in Washington County will begin April 1st, with the tax listers serving as assessors, and they will meet here next Monday to organize for the work, with Henry C. Spruill, of Plymouth, as supervisor.

Associated with Mr. Spruill will be the following: Plymouth, Charlie Bowen, W. Linwood Hassell, P. W. Brinkley; Lees Mills, Roy Chesson, R. C. Peacock and James A. Chesson; Skinnerville, W. W. White, Clint Everett, Hubert Davenport; and Scuppernon, Paul Swain, Paul Belanga and Henderson Norman.

The taxable value of property in Washington County is now \$5,500,000 while it has, in recent years, been up to as much as \$8,000,000. Some predict that valuations will crawl upwards to about an even \$6,000,000. However, no one can say that it will be a definite increase in every case. Even if the valuation should mount upwards only \$300,000, then it is estimated that it would have some refection on the present rate of \$1.80, as when the valuations go up, usually the rate is dropped.

The law has it that property should be revalued every four years, but it has been exactly 10 years since this was done in this county, as it was in 1927 that the last revaluing efforts were made. The valuation has been horizontally reduced from time to time during the depression.

These men should have their work completed in July so that the new budget can be fixed. April is used generally for the listing of property. However, it may take longer this year on account of the revaluation that goes along with it.

Inasmuch as the revaluations have not been made as prescribed by law, there are manifest inequalities in the listings that are expected to be corrected at this time. No horizontal increase is expected to be made. Instead the increases will be considered individually.

Mystery Continues Around Assault on Seaton Davenport

Officer Still Thinks He Was Slugged by Occupant of Passing Auto

Mystery Continues to shroud the case of Seaton Davenport, former police chief at Creswell, who was found with both legs broken, a crushed body and exhausted and unconscious from loss of blood on the highway near the home of Rev. Roy Respass on October 29 last year.

The trial of Hiram White, Willis and Gus Owens in recorder's court Tuesday only served to bring to light a person whose vision was obscured by fog and whose trailer probably ran over the injured man.

The evidence introduced at the trial did not attempt to show that there was any felonious intent on the part of White, and it appears that he was only negligent in his duty to stop and help an injured person after suspecting an accident.

Those close to Davenport say that he clings to the belief that he was struck in the forehead by a blunt instrument as a motor vehicle passed him on the highway. After being knocked unconscious and weak from loss of blood it is considered possible that White ran over him.

In the office of Mayor J. A. Combs at Creswell is a hatchet that is believed to have been used to hit the officer with, and it is thought that the ownership of the implement can be traced. It was found in bushes by the side of the road leading from the highway to the home of Davenport.

Then, again, it is wondered how both shoes could have been taken from the unconscious officer, one found 5 miles away at a filling station, and the other, with the laces folded neatly inside and standing upright by Mr. Davenport at the scene of the happening.

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