

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

THE ROANOKE BEACON

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Refunding Bonds Approved by 3-4 Of Bond Holders

County Commissioners Pass Resolutions To Make Plan To Refund Effective

The refunding plan for defaulted bonds and interest of Washington County, which was first proposed in July, 1936, is about to go into operation.

Seventy-five per cent of the bondholders have signified their willingness to accept the terms of the refunding agreement, and the County Commissioners adopted a resolution this week to have the plan put into effect at once.

The approval of the State Local Government Commission still must be obtained, but this is believed to be only a formality, according to Commissioner Frank Brinkley.

The County first defaulted in the payment of bond principal in August, 1931, and in the payment of interest coupons in December, 1931.

Some payments of both principal and interest have been made since, but the County has found it impossible to make up the default entirely and still continue the other functions of government.

When the State Commission places its stamp of approval on the transaction, \$68,447.29 worth of interest refunding bonds and \$178,599 worth of refunding bonds will be issued, according to Commissioner Brinkley.

IT ISN'T NEWS BUT—

Somnambulist Starts Something

Kinston — A colored boy, Donald Atkins, walked in his sleep and fell over a porch chair so that the end of the rocker struck his face and knocked out two teeth.

Another lodger, mistaking him for a burglar fired at him with a shotgun. His aim was bad and he missed Atkins, but hit a dog across the street.

The dog ran away and hasn't come back, and his owner demands that the man who shot it pay, but he refuses on the grounds that Atkins was responsible for the shooting, and as long as he didn't get hit should be willing to pay for the dog, which did.

Atkins refuses and is ready to go to court. When the shot whistled past him he shouted so loud that the neighbors were all roused and started a dog hunt.

Something Went Wrong

Palisades, N. J.—The national association of prophets, clairvoyants, crystal gazers and tea cup readers worked for months on preparations for its second annual convention here.

Thursday was to be a perfect day, according to the predictions of the professional prognosticators. But something must have gone wrong, —it rained cats and dogs.

Jewish New Year

Sam Adler's store in Plymouth was closed on Monday—but not for Labor Day.

On the door was a large sign, which read: "Closed for Jewish Holidays." Sunday night at sundown members of the Jewish faith throughout the world gathered in their places of worship to begin the ancient ceremony ushering in Rosh Hashonah, Jewish New Year.

And, whereas officially in the United States this is the year 1937, to Jews it is the year 5698, since they had a head start and got their calendar going some thousands of years before Pope Gregory XIII established the present Christian system of figuring time.

The high holy days of the Jews will end on September 15, Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

It Is Confusing

Oakland, Cal.—Cleone Goad, 13, is now her mother's sister-in-law as the bride of Leonard Newlun, age 30, and her stepfather is her brother-in-law.

She obtained a marriage license by swearing she was 16, it is said, and now the authorities are preparing to take her away from her husband, a brother of her mother's husband.

Lilliputian Infant

Minneapolis, Minn. A full sized baby, born to midget parents here a few days ago, is said by hospital nurses to have more than full sized lung power.

The baby is one third the height of her mother, Mrs. Frank Delfino. (Continued on Back Page)

City Council Takes First Steps Toward Collecting \$1,000 in Miscellaneous Debts

The Plymouth City Council, at its regular meeting this week, took the first step toward collection of nearly \$1,000 in miscellaneous old debts from local residents and business concerns.

Of this sum \$94 is included in a collection of "rubber" checks, which City Clerk M. W. Spruill has been holding for some time.

Another \$100 is the rent due on real estate owned by the city, and \$735 is the balance due on old water bills, of which about half will be written off as bad debts.

The city will continue its policy

of shutting off water promptly when users fail to pay their water bills, as required on the 15th of the month, and the legal steps in the collection of the other debts are being investigated.

An investigation is also to be made to learn what contract, if any, the city may have with the telephone company relative to its right of way for lines through the city. It was suggested at the meeting that an investigation of the terms of the franchise might disclose that the company should furnish a certain amount of service to the city free.

Commissioners Favor Three Road Projects

GOOD HOG SALE

The hog sale in Plymouth last Tuesday was one of the most successful to date, according to W. V. Hays, county agent.

"Hogs did not sell as high as previously," he said, "but four cars of top quality hogs were shipped. Farmers received a better price on day of sale than the Richmond quotations."

"The hogs handled by our Association have consistently brought better prices by at least 1-2 cents than hogs sold either to hucksters or on local markets."

"Occasionally something pops up which causes a little dissatisfaction, but with all of our soft hogs and other things considered we net considerably more for the hogs sold through the association."

The next hog sale will be on September 21 in Plymouth, Mr. Hays announced.

Windsor Highway, Mackeys Road and Wenona Fill Asked

Commissioners of Two Counties Join in Support of Bertie-Plymouth Link

Three highway projects, which would link Plymouth with Windsor on the West, Mackeys on the East, and Wenona on the South, are urged in resolutions submitted to the State Highway Commission by the County Commissioners this week.

The proposal for construction of a bridge at Hyman's Ferry and improvement of the road to Windsor by that way has been endorsed also by the City Council and Plymouth Business Men's Association, and several other civic organizations.

The project has the support of the Bertie Board of County Commissioners, and is requested by W. W. Henderson of the Kieckhefer Container Company, who states that his company will purchase large amounts of wood in Bertie, and that would be trucked over the proposed road.

The cost of building the proposed bridge and road would be returned in the savings in hauling costs to the men trucking logs from Bertie to Plymouth within about four years, it is said.

According to Mr. Henderson the Mill will pay a flat price for logs delivered and any reduction in hauling costs will mean that much more profit for those selling logs.

Much of the money paid by the mill will be spent in Plymouth, he said, and that should prove of great benefit to local store keepers.

A delegation of Plymouth citizens went to Windsor this week to urge favorable consideration for the project by the Bertie commissioners. Included in the delegation were: E. L. Owens, T. C. Burgess, S. D. Davis, A. L. Owens, W. R. Hampton, C. F. Bailey, H. A. Liverman, E. F. Still, J. L. Manning, W. H. Parferson, L. S. Thompson, W. W. Henderson, and B. G. Campbell.

The Washington County Commissioners in urging favorable consideration.

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School Head Urges Full Attendance First Two Weeks

Superintendent McLean Has Hope of Getting More Teachers This Year

County Superintendent H. H. McLean today urged that all parents in Washington County send their children to school if they possibly can next week in order to swell the attendance record.

"Plymouth and Roper lost teachers this year because of poor attendance last year," he said, "and this is our last chance to have those teachers replaced."

"The State allots teachers on the basis of attendance during the first two weeks of the school year, so I hope that parents will see to it that children are present this week—if they never come to school another day during the year!"

Plymouth elementary white schools opened with 399 children enrolled this year, as against an attendance of 390 during the first month a year ago.

In the high school, attendance was also somewhat less; 133 against 105. Figures for Roper show 273 in the grades this year against 234 a year ago, and 101 in the high school against 91 a year ago.

Figures for Creswell are 295 in the grades against 327 a year ago, and 136 in the high school against 146 a year ago.

The elementary grades in Cherry were 156 this year, against 168 last year.

These figures are somewhat misleading, however, according to Mr. McLean, as there will be a considerable increase in enrollment before the end of this month when boys and girls finish harvesting work.

No figures for the first week of last year are available, and it is therefore necessary to compare the first week figures of this year with the first month of a year ago, he said.

Local Team Scores 3 To 1 Over Edenton In Hard-Won Battle

Bob Bateman Scores Twice; Squire Davenport Once in Final Game of Season

The Plymouth All-Stars have another hard-won victory to their credit this week following the final game of the season here Sunday, in which they scored 3 to 1 over the Edenton Cotton Mills.

Plymouth scored first in the second inning when Bob Bateman connected for a single and L. Westmoreland following him to the bat, brought him in.

The Edenton boys made their only score in the second, when, with three on, a ball hit over third, enabled one man to come in.

Bob Bateman and Squire Davenport made the other scores in the seventh, running in at Westmoreland, who followed them at bat, hit a line drive over the left fielder's head.

Norman Mayo hit a couple of hard drives to the outfield, one going for two bases.

Edenton made a brief threat in the ninth, getting one on, but a well-executed double play ended the visitors' chances.

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County Will Have Three Junior High Schools Next Year; 20 Units To Be Required for Graduation

Vocational Agriculture Students in Local School To Operate Bank During Term

Students in Plymouth High School who are taking the course in vocational agriculture have gone into the banking business as a side line, according to their instructor, W. D. Starr.

The bank, built in the classroom, has a good-sized window for deposits, but none for withdrawals, it is said. Twice each week it will be open with a cashier on hand to enter the deposits of from 5 to 50 cents made by the students and credited to their accounts.

Pleased with the manner in which the members of this class have taken

hold of the bank idea, Mr. Starr commented:

"The students have demonstrated that future farmers can save money, and that they believe, as did George Washington, in achieving financial independence and thereby becoming better citizens."

He said he is especially pleased with the response of his students because it will help them finance the activities of the local Y. T. H. F. chapter.

Among the projects for which funds will be needed later are a farm tour, father and son banquet, and educational trips, he said.

Will Give County Schools Equal To Best City Systems

Addition of Another Year to School Training Is Made Suddenly This Week

Washington county will have three junior high schools next year, school authorities announced this week.

These will be in Plymouth, Roper, and Creswell, and will mean the addition of another year to the educational program for white children in the county.

At present the schools are operating under a "seven-four" system, with seven elementary grades and four years of high school.

The change will mean operation on a "six-two-four" basis with six elementary grades, two years of junior high, and four years of senior high.

Last year 17 units were required for graduation from the county high schools. This year a minimum of 18 is needed, and next year the requirement will be for 20 units.

Accordingly, high school seniors will graduate as usual this year, but next year a class somewhere in the junior or senior high will be held back so that those who would have become seniors will only become juniors, and so on.

The purpose of this change, as explained by Principal R. B. Trotman, who has had much of the task of working out the details, is to allow more vocational work and a larger number of elective subjects.

Under the new system students in the seventh, eighth, and ninth grades will have an opportunity to earn eight high school units, and those in the 10th, 11th, and 12th years will be able to earn 12 units, Mr. Trotman said.

Extensive changes in the programs and courses offered this year are already underway in order to conform to the requirements of the new system.

Superintendent McLean has been working for some time on plans to make a gradual improvement in the schools, raising the requirements for graduation one unit each year, according to Chairman Carl Bailey of the school committee.

"But this was throwing an impossibly heavy load on both teachers and students this year with only one more unit required than last year," he said.

"My child, who is only 13 years old, was obliged to take two mathematics courses as the work had been laid out this year."

"Some teachers were teaching six classes a day without a rest period. Next year the problem would have been even worse."

"There was only one thing to do, and that was to give up the idea of a gradual improvement and make the change all at one time next year."

Guards Provided for Pulp Plant Pay Roll

Every Precaution Taken To Protect Pay for 250 Men

Local Police, Company Officers, Two Sheriffs Form Armed Guard

Fearing an attempt might be made to steal the \$13,000 payroll of the James Stewart Construction Company this week, police again took unusual precautions.

Chief P. W. Brown of Plymouth, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck of Martin County, J. K. Reid of Washington County, and Company guards worked together in making arrangements for the transfer of the money.

The alarm a week ago resulted from a tip received by police that Bill Payne and a number of other escaped convicts had been seen in Williamston.

They were believed heading this way and a payroll robbery was feared, so the money was taken from the bank to the mill under heavy guard.

Earl C. Hughes, chief accountant here for the Stewart Company, carried the money in a machine preceded by one filled with armed officers, and followed by a decoy bearing the name of the construction company, in which rode Jack Read, of Plymouth, a member of the office force.

Both Hughes and Read told police after they arrived at the mill that they had seen a suspicious looking Packard, parked on the edge of the Kieckhefer Mill property, just off the road.

Two men were sitting in the front seat, and the machine resembled that in which Payne was reported to have been riding when seen in Williamston.

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FIRST CASUALTY

The Plymouth High School football team suffered its first casualty of the season with the loss of Bryant Cox, who broke his collarbone this week during a practice session.

There is little hope of his being able to play again this year, according to Dr. Alban Papineau, who set the bone.

"I was going to block Reuben Mayo, but timed myself badly, and that's how it happened," Cox said.

His loss will be a further handicap to Coach Armstrong, as he is one of the few men available for the squad this year who have played before. Last year he played guard, and this year was to have played tackle.

Plymouth Now Has New State Police Barracks on Wheels

Patrolman Tom Brown, of Washington, Brings Own Living Quarters

Plymouth now has a state police barracks as well as a state highway patrolman.

Officer Tom Brown arrived in town this week with his trunk and luggage stowed in the rumble seat of his prowl car, and after looking around vainly for a room here, returned to Washington.

The next day he was back again with a trailer in tow, and is now living in his new "barracks on wheels" close to the municipal building.

Patrolman Brown is 28 years old, was born and educated at Kinston, and studied accounting at Oglethorpe University in Georgia.

He has been three years in the highway service and is enthusiastic about his work. Plymouth is his fourth assignment. Coming from Washington, he had previously been stationed at Raleigh and Greenville. Here he will concentrate on preventive highway safety work, will give safety talks to school children, examine school buses and bus drivers, and patrol the highways.

Patrolman Brown is a good natured, friendly sort of officer, and comes here highly recommended by the people of Washington, where he was very popular.

Zeb V. Norman Is Able To Be About

The rapid strides which Z. Vance Norman has been making toward recovery from the injuries he received in his automobile accident have made it possible for him to get out and about again.

On his first trip down town this week, he was greeted by many friends, and reports of his progress toward good health again brought the following congratulatory editorial from Herbert Peele, publisher of the Elizabeth City Daily Advance: "The Daily Advance is happy to see by the Plymouth Beacon that our good friend, Zeb Vance Norman of Plymouth, will be well again in a few days."

"The editor of the Daily Advance knows something of the inconvenience of having to use crutches, as Mr. Norman will for some days, but tells the world that it's a lot better to be out on crutches than not to be out at all."

MAN OF THE WEEK . . ROBERT B. TROTMAN

New Principal of Plymouth High School in Lime-light This Week

Well, schools are open again, and if there is one man who has a right to heave a sigh of relief, it is Robert B. Trotman, new principal of the Plymouth high school.

For almost a month Principal Trotman went about the school building, his sleeves rolled up, his clothes dirty, and his brow wet with honest sweat.

He has swept floors, painted walls and done a vast amount of cleaning up in addition to the task for which he came here—preparing to pour knowledge into the heads of Plymouth boys and girls.

The new principal is a young man, only 31, but has already had eight years of experience in school work. For six years he was principal of the union school at Oriental, and for two years was principal of the school at Englehard.

His home is at Suffolk, Virginia, and he studied at St. John's in Annapolis for one year, and was later graduated from Wake Forest with a degree of bachelor of arts in literature. Later he did graduate work at the University of North Carolina. Good natured and informal, he has been greeting visitors to the high school with an invitation to



"Come on, climb in through the window."

With a rugged padlock on the front door up to the time it was officially opened, this appeared to be the only method of entrance, used by principal, teachers, janitors and visitors alike.

Although his own favorite subjects were English and French when he was in high school and college, Mr. Trotman is now most interested in getting vocational courses established in the public schools.

He hopes soon to have typing and

Trotman Is Hard Worker, Is Very Democratic and Should Prove Popular

shorthand added to the list of electives offered here.

Already he has arranged to include courses in business arithmetic and business English among the electives for senior students.

First year Latin will not be taught this year, but there will be a class in second year Latin for those who took Latin I last year and desire to obtain the two years of it necessary for college entrance requirements. Next year Latin I may be taught again, and the following year, Latin 11, so that any student who desires it can obtain the two years.

Similarly, chemistry will be offered this year, but physics will not, and next year physics will be offered, but no chemistry, according to the schedule drawn up by Mr. Trotman.

"I should like to make it clear," he said in discussing the courses to be offered, "that this high school is up to standard and children who come here will receive the same credits that they would receive in any other school of the state."

Many newcomers to Plymouth have asked about this, he said, and have suggested sending their children to other schools if that would be better for them. This would not make any difference, he declared.

Carl Bailey Has Lame Leg; Has To Use Cane

Attorney Carl Bailey has been suffering from a sore leg caused by swelling of the blood vessels this week, and is at present obliged to use a cane in getting about, but expects to be well again in a few days.

Three years ago he had the same trouble with his other leg but recovered within a short time.

Pleasant Grove Revival Attracts Large Crowds

Large crowds are being attracted by the revival meeting at the Pleasant Grove Methodist Church, the Rev. W. J. Watson announced today.

The Rev. Edwin R. Hartz is assisting Mr. Watson in the preaching. The Rev. Oliver Easter, pastor of the Methodist Protestant Church is leading the singing.

No Night Service at Roper Baptist Church Sunday

The regular service at the Roper Baptist Church will not be held on Sunday night, due to the yearly revival at Zion's Chapel Church of Christ, according to Dr. G. A. Martin, pastor.