

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 39

Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Friday, September 24, 1937.

ESTABLISHED 1889

## Barge Sinks Loaded With Pilings for Use New Sound Bridge

Construction Is Proceeding Rapidly on Both Sides; Concrete Is Poured

A barge loaded with pilings which had been brought all the way from the Pacific coast for use in building the new Sound bridge sank a few days ago at the mouth of the Roanoke River.

The barge did not go to the bottom, but floated on a level with the water due to the fact that it was carrying only wood.

Efforts are being made to salvage it as the price of barges is very high at present and every one available is already in use all along the Atlantic coast.

The piles which made up the load ranged in length from 93 to 98 feet, and are reported to be worth close to \$100 each.

After the barge went down they broke away and went floating down stream, but were recovered shortly after.

Just what caused the barge to sink, has not yet been disclosed, but it is thought that there may have been a rotten plank in the bottom, which suddenly gave way.

The logs were being taken from the loading terminal at the Plymouth railroad station to the Edenton side of the bridge.

Rapid Progress  
Construction work has been progressing rapidly of late, according to state inspectors on the job.

Half a mile of piling has now been driven out from the shore on the Plymouth side by the T. L. Loving Company, which is building the Southern approach to the central span.

By the middle of the week 800 feet of concrete had been poured virtually completing the bridge that far out from the shore, and by the first of next week it is expected that an additional 200 feet will have been poured.

On the Edenton side, the Tidewater Construction Corporation, which is building the northern section of the bridge and also the span, is reported to have poured 600 feet, and is expected to be ready to pour another 200 feet of concrete within a few days.

## Tom Davenport Death In Franklin Reported

Friends of Tom Davenport, who formerly lived in Creswell, learned this week of his death in Franklin, Va.

Mr. Davenport was the son of Tom Davenport and is survived by two brothers, Ben Davenport and Dallas Davenport; and by one sister, Miss Susan Davenport.

He leaves two sons, Tom and Wallace Davenport, both of Creswell. He had been in bad health for some time prior to his death, members of the

## Architect Working on Creswell School Plans

Preliminary Plans For New Building To Be Ready Soon

Plans for a new school to be built in Creswell are now being drawn by Henry Deitrick, a Raleigh architect, County Superintendent H. H. McLean announced this week.

The school will be built partly with federal and partly with County funds.

Congressman Lindsay C. Warren notified Superintendent McLean a few days ago that the government has approved a \$22,185 grant out of PWA funds for the project.

The County has already arranged to put up \$25,000, which is available from the State literary fund, making a total of \$47,185 now in sight for the building.

The original plan was to use the money in remodeling the present building and to build ten additional rooms and an auditorium also.

## Governor Hoey Stops Over for Brief Visit in Town Thursday

Governor Clyde R. Hoey stopped in Plymouth on his way to Columbia for the dedication of a new agricultural building there Thursday.

He was accompanied by State Treasurer Charles M. Johnson, Secretary of State Thad Eure, and a chauffeur.

The Governor and his party chatted for about ten minutes with a group of people who were in Arps' Pharmacy when they entered to refresh themselves.

Earl Davenport waited on the Governor who ordered a Coca Cola. Alvah Wheaton, who is also employed at the pharmacy, had previously waited on the Governor when he paid a visit to Morehead City, where he was then working.

Abe Adler raised quite a laugh when he told the Governor, known as a leading "dry," that he is very

## Report Town Finances In Critical Condition

CCC Enrollment

Boys interested in enrolling in the CCC during the October enrollment period should see Miss Ursula Bateman, county welfare officer, at the courthouse as soon as possible, it was announced this week.

The law under which the CCC now functions requires that applicants be between 17 and 23 years old, but permits boys who have been in the CCC and left with honorable discharges to re-enroll after a period of six months, whereas they were formerly not permitted to return to the camps until they had been out for a year.

Cut-throat Is Hunted On The Plymouth Streets

Saturday night a man was found bleeding badly about the throat at the rear of the Plymouth post office.

Someone called for the police and Chief P. W. Brown with State Patrolman Tom Brown set out to find the man who had knifed him.

After questioning several men who had been with the wounded man just a few minutes before the crime was committed, they arrested a suspect.

About that time someone discovered a broken bottle near where the victim had been "assaulted" and the truth gradually began to leak out: There had been no knifing. The wounded man had simply stumbled and fallen to the ground cutting himself on a piece of jagged glass.

The man arrested on suspicion of attacking him was held on charges of drunkenness.

More Taxes or New Bonds  
There appear to be only two ways in which the town can meet the problem: Either by raising the taxes, or by entering upon some refunding plan.

The tax rate was raised to \$2 last year and it is believed that it is about all the community can stand. Further increases would probably result in widespread non-payment and eventually in wholesale foreclosure actions, it is said.

Last July, when James M. Williams made an audit of the town books, he recommended that the town ask the assistance of the state commission on local government.

The commission was accordingly informed of the situation and Plymouth was told to "sit tight" until something could be worked out.

No Plan Offered Yet  
But so far no plan for refunding has been brought before the town authorities, and as the months pass and more and more bonds go into default, the situation becomes more complicated.

City Clerk Spruill wrote Mr. Williams this week to request that he be present at the next meeting of the mayor and council to advise them on a definite program.

Mayor B. G. Campbell has also been in communication with Mr. Williams in an attempt to work toward some solution of the problem.

It is believed that if about \$50,000 in refunds bonds at reduced interest (all those outstanding now pay 6 per cent) could be issued in exchange for those in default, for the accumulated interest, and for those to fall due between now and the end of the year, it would give the town a chance to catch its breath and resume payments on the balance.

The present financial tangle is the result of failure of the town to carry out the terms of the original sinking fund plan set up at the time the bonds were issued about 12 years ago.

For Street Paving  
More than \$200,000 worth of bonds were sold to meet the cost of paving the streets. The sinking fund plan called for levies of 50 per cent of the cost to be made upon owners of abutting real estate, 25 per cent on each side of the street.

The remaining 50 per cent was to be raised from the towns general taxes, and as the installments were paid in, they were to be set aside in a fund to meet the bonds and interest as they fell due.

The 25 per cent levies on the real estate abutting on either side of the streets have been collected promptly

(Continued on page four)

## Roper High Teacher Is Honored for Half Century of Service

Miss Carstarphen, Known To County as "Gussie," Has Taught 3 Generations

The Roper Parent Teachers Association paid high tribute to Miss A. C. Carstarphen at its first fall meeting this week.

Miss Carstarphen, known to three generations of school children as "Gussie," has been teaching in Roper for more than half a century now, 54 years to be exact.

The Rev. M. L. Ambrose, in expressing the appreciation felt by hundreds of men and women for the training given them as students by Miss Carstarphen, recalled that his mother had gone to school to her, that he had studied under her, and that two of his children have been in her classes.

He spoke of the tremendous sweep of her influence and of how it will live on to benefit even future generations, not yet born.

When Miss Carstarphen was called upon for a speech, she told of the pleasure she has experienced in helping her boys and girls make a start in life.

Many who studied in her classes have gone far. Some are doctors, some are lawyers, several preachers, others are merchants, farmers, or themselves now teach school.

The entire faculty of the Roper school was given a reception following the general program of entertainment by members of the student body.

Addresses of welcome to teachers and parents were given by representatives of each class in the high school.

Ida Ruth Knowles read an original essay on "Autumn" and Ruth Nowarrath read an original story on "The Bee Dance."

Mrs. Ordie Blount, president of the PTA presided at a short business session, and Superintendent H. H. McLean and Principal D. E. Poole spoke on the need for close cooperation between teachers and parents in the interest of children in school.

## New Country Club Expected To Open Late Next Month

All But Two of Kieckhefer Houses Now Complete; Resurface New Road

The new Plymouth Country Club will probably be ready for an official opening between October 20 and November 1, it was announced this week.

This date is somewhat later than that originally set, but has been made necessary by the fact that work on the club house is just getting underway with the pouring of the foundations hardly finished.

The greens are beginning to look very good and the grass on the fairways has taken root well, but many minor details remain to be taken care of, some of the traps are not yet finished, and all of the new grass needs several more weeks to develop properly.

Forty men are now employed on the Country club project, according to E. J. Preston, who is in charge of the construction of the club house. Half of the men are working on the course, and half on the club building, he said.

Only two of the 31 houses built by Kieckhefer Company for its employees remain to be completed. These are the two to be occupied by W. W. Henderson, mill supervisor, and one of the other company executives.

It is expected that the houses will be occupied as soon as the contractors who are now preparing to hard surface the dirt road leading through the housing development to the country club finish their work.

## Next Hog Sale Will Be Held On October Fifth

The next cooperative hog sale will be on October 5, County Agent W. V. Hays announced following the sale this week at which 211 hogs were disposed of at a price of \$12.15.

This price is 45 cents better than was paid at the last sale, he said. The sale this week was one of the most successful up to this time.

## Two County Men Drawn For Federal Jury Duty

Two Washington County men, Messrs. M. F. Davenport, of Mackeys and John Woodley, of Creswell, have been drawn for jury service in the federal court convening in Washington October 4.

## Local Merchants Begin Trade-in-Plymouth Campaign Next Week With \$800 in Cash Prizes Offered

### Game Dinner Is Planned for Publicity Party's Visit Here

Definite assurance was received here this week that the itinerary of the party of writers and publicists who are to tour the state next month will include Plymouth.

Last Week Roy Hampton, who was attempting to have Plymouth included in the tour, reported that the question of whether or not they would come appeared to hinge on whether or not Plymouth could provide them with a luncheon.

That problem has now been solved with the appointment of a committee by the Lions Club to make arrangements for a game dinner.

The plan is to impress on the visitors the fact that Washington County is rich hunting territory and a sportsman's paradise by feeding them on squirrel and deer, shot near Plymouth.

On the committee are J. R. Manning, B. G. Campbell and Carl Bailey. It is not yet known exactly how many there will be in the party and estimates range from 50 to 100, so that no decision has yet been made as to where the dinner will be served.

While the party is here, it will visit the new pulp mill and the southern end of the new sound bridge, according to Attorney Bailey.

"We intend to impress upon the minds of the visitors the fact that the north-south highway, route 17, will come through this territory as soon as the bridge is completed," he said.

## Set Up Organization of Local Building & Loan

### E. F. Still Is Elected President at First Meet of Directors

Organization of the Plymouth Building & Loan Association was virtually completed this week with the election of E. F. Still as president.

Mr. Still is president of the Plymouth Box & Panel Company, and has been prominent in civic affairs in Plymouth for some years.

W. W. Henderson, superintendent of the new pulp mill, was elected vice president, and L. S. Thompson was selected to serve as temporary secretary and treasurer. Attorney Z. Vance Norman was appointed as counsel for the association.

The election of these officers at the first meeting of the directors of the new organization on Monday evening followed a meeting of the stockholders in the courthouse Friday evening.

The stockholders at their meeting named the following men to serve on the board of directors: A. L. Owens, J. R. Manning, George W. Hardison, W. W. Henderson, J. C. Tarkenton, E. F. Still, J. L. Horton, L. S. Thompson, and T. C. Burgess.

No date has been set for the next meeting of the directors, but it will be called by Secretary Thompson when Attorney Z. V. Norman has completed the drafting of a constitution and by-laws for the association.

These will probably not be ready for at least a week, it is expected. There is a possibility that a permanent secretary-treasurer may be decided upon at that time also.

According to Mr. Thompson, the man selected for this office should be able to devote considerable time to the work and should, if possible, be someone employed at the local bank.

The first series of shares in the association is still open, he said, so that anyone interested in joining may still do so.

## Roper Seniors Vote To Stage Class Play Before Christmas

Miss Mildred Williams Named Adviser; Mary Davenport Class President

The senior class of the Roper High School will put on a class play sometime between now and Christmas.

At the first regular meeting of the year the class made preliminary plans for this and elected Miss Mildred Williams, the music teacher, class adviser.

Miss Mary Davenport, of Mackeys, was elected president; Lois Hughes, of Roper, vice president; and Lulu Ange, of County Bridge, secretary-treasurer.

## Three Arrests Made at Creswell Last Week-End

Julian Chesson, of Roper, was arrested on a charge of reckless driving by Deputy Sheriff W. D. Peal in Creswell Sunday morning.

## IT ISN'T NEWS BUT—

Its Never Too Late  
Still feeling gay and romantic, despite his 70 years, James R. Moore, colored, of Dardens, took out a marriage license at the courthouse in Plymouth this week.

The blushing bride, Priscilla Bell, of Plymouth, is 50. Both have been married before.

Tragedy in Two Paragraphs  
New York.—A blue-eyed, gray-haired woman, neatly dressed, approached George Wainio, who was standing on the bulkhead at Jefferson Street and the East River. "Please hold my coat," she said.

"Certainly," he replied, and she jumped into the river. Her body was recovered a few hours later.

What Next?  
Eagle Pass, Texas.—Dr. A. J. Rickles heard a strange "awk-yak" sound in his bathroom. He grabbed something fuzzy in the dark and switched on the lights.

In his hand he was holding a four-inch spider, which he promptly dropped. The creature scurried away, barking savagely. Within a few days the doctor found his backyard

(Continued on page four)

## \$200 Grand Prize To Be Given Away On Final Drawing

First of \$20 Cash to Be Given Away Each Week With Four \$5 Prizes

Plymouth merchants will give away \$800 in cash prizes to lucky shoppers during the next 11 weeks.

Five prizes will be given away each Wednesday, one of \$20 in cash, and four of \$5 each.

A grand prize of \$200 in cash will be given away on Monday, December 27, with a second prize of \$50, a third prize of \$25, and five prizes of \$10 each.

Every man, woman, and child trading in the Plymouth stores during these eleven weeks stands an equal chance of winning the \$200 grand prize or one or more of the smaller prizes.

The are absolutely no "catches" to the proposition.

"This money is really going to be given away," L. S. Thompson, president of the Merchants' Association, said in announcing the plan.

"Forty dollars will be given away each week until the final week. That week we will give away \$325.

"All that anyone has to do to get one of these prizes is to save the tickets given out by storekeepers with every purchase of merchandise amounting to \$1 in value or the same amount paid on account.

"Duplicate tickets will be kept by the merchants who are participating in the plan, and these will be placed in a big drum which will be spun around to mix them thoroughly.

"Then a number will be drawn, and the man, woman, or child who holds the duplicate number will receive \$20 in cash. Four other numbers will be drawn, and holders of the corresponding tickets will each receive \$5 in cash.

"When the final prizes are drawn on December 27 all the tickets issued during the previous 11 weeks will be put into the drum and mixed up together.

"The first number drawn will pay \$200 cash, the second will pay \$50, and the third \$25. The next five numbers will pay \$10 each.

There is nothing to prevent one person from winning as much as \$400 if lucky enough to win the first prize of \$20 each week for the first 10 weeks and the \$200 prize on the last week.

The only restriction is that no person may win more than one prize on the same week.

Prizes will be drawn at 3 p. m. each Wednesday afternoon until December 15, after which they will be drawn on Monday afternoon at the same time. The final drawing will also be on a Monday, December 27.

## County Farmers' Vote Favors Potato Control

Not One Ballot In Opposition During First Days of Vote

Both Producer and Consumer Would Benefit by Government Plan

Washington county farmers voting on the question of acreage control from Irish potatoes have registered an overwhelming sentiment in favor of the government program.

Approximately two-thirds of the farmers who are eligible to vote have done so and not a single vote has been cast in opposition to the proposal.

With similar sentiment reported in other counties of this section and throughout most potato growing areas of the country, it is expected that the necessary two-thirds vote required to put the plan into effect will be easily obtained.

If, as a result of this referendum, the Irish potato is made a basic commodity and given government aid like that available for cotton, peanuts, and tobacco, production will become more stable and both producer and consumer would benefit, government experts maintain.

Two factors enter into the price of potatoes, according to County Agent W. V. Hays:

(Continued on page four)

Funeral services for C. W. Owens, who died after a sickness of only one week, were held at the Methodist Church in Plymouth with the Rev. C. T. Thrift officiating.

Mr. Owens was born in Tyrrell County 65 years ago, but had lived most of his life in Washington County. He was well known here as a grocery salesman.

He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Claudia Read and Mrs. A. R. Dupree, and leaves two children, Mrs. William Whitson, of Washington, D. C.; and Layton Owens, of Norfolk, Va.

Among those attending the funeral were: William Whitson, who came specially from Washington; Charles Layton, of Goldsboro; Mrs. Nadine Moore, of Raleigh; C. L. Murphy, of Norfolk; Mrs. M. E. Blount, of Norfolk, and Elmore Blount, jr.

Pall-bearers at the funeral were: Dr. C. McGowan, Vance Satterthwaite, J. K. Reid, Robert W. Johnston, A. L. Owens, and W. T. Stillman.

Honorary pall-bearers included: William Clark, H. E. Beam, Clarence Ayers, E. H. Liverman, Herbert Liverman, J. W. Norman, and W. L. Whittley.