

Superior Court Will Begin Monday; Few Cases of Importance

Judge Walter J. Bone, of Asheville, To Preside Over Two-Weeks Term

Washington County Superior Court will convene here Monday morning with Judge Walter J. Bone, of Asheville, presiding, in the place of Judge R. Hunt Parker, who exchanged with the jurist so that Mr. Bone may get acquainted here.

The new judge succeeds Judge M. V. Barnhill, of Rocky Mount, who was elevated to the Supreme Court bench. This is the first time that Judge Bone has been in the county and people here are looking forward with interest to meeting him.

The docket of the court is small, with only about 12 unimportant cases scheduled for trial in the first two days, which have been set aside for the disposition of the criminal docket. These cases have to do with drunken driving, appeals from the lower courts and such.

The term is to be for two weeks, but it is not expected to take all the time allotted for the trial of the 19 civil cases on the calendar. Some of these cases are likely to be continued by consent.

Judge Bone has been in the county before, having attended a meeting of the lawyers of this judicial district held at Albemarle Beach last summer, at which time he was recognized and spoke a few words to the lawyers assembled.

Assessed Costs for Driving Team of Mules While Drunk

Unusual Case Heard in Recorder's Court by Judge Darden Tuesday

An unusual case was disposed of by Recorder John W. Darden here Tuesday when he suspended judgment upon payment of the costs by Lawrence Bowen, who was arrested recently on a charge of driving a team of mules while drunk.

The original charge against him was for operating a horse or mule drawn vehicle while under the influence of whiskey, and was issued under the statute as that for drunken driving of an automobile.

The attorney general gave Mr. Darden a ruling in the case that it was a misdemeanor punishable in a lighter form rather than the more serious offense of driving an automobile while under the influence of liquor, which requires, among other things, revocation of the driving license.

The costs of the court here range from \$17 to \$20, and the court felt that this was sufficient punishment for the man in a case of this kind, as no driving license is required for handling a team.

Chief of Police P. W. Brown and Patrolman Tom Brown had the warrant issued when the defendant was found roughly handling his team on the streets of Plymouth in a drunken condition.

State Welfare Man Speaker at Meet of Local School Group

F. H. Farrell Talks to Parent-Teacher Group on Understanding Children

F. H. Farrell, of Williamston, a representative of the State Department of Public Welfare, was the principal speaker at the monthly meeting of the parent-teacher association held at the Plymouth High School Building Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Farrell spoke on the proper understanding of children and how the parents should approach their children and meet the problems that confront the rearing of children, using as his topic, "The Problem Child."

It was also reported during the meeting that a decision had been made to sponsor a benefit bridge tournament in January to procure money to be used in purchasing additional equipment for the school lunch room.

Tea was served to those attending in the lunch room by Mrs. Kathleen Sprull and assistants.

Services at Grace Church Twice During January

Rev. Sidney E. Matthews, of Washington, rector of Grace Episcopal church here, will hold service twice this month in Plymouth.

The first will be at 11 o'clock Sunday morning, January 9, and the second is Sunday evening, 7:30, January 16.

The minister urges all the members to attend these services.

Happy New Year

By SADIE LEE FAGAN

What a world of inspiration in those three words.

What a multitude of hopes and expectations come to our hearts and minds as we read them on greeting cards, or have them called to us by friends and loved ones.

No other holiday in all the year offers such opportunities for looking ahead, for blotting out mistakes of the past and beginning again.

It is truly the springtime of the heart.

But the New Year is more than this. It is time for retrospection, for recalling the pleasant happenings of the year just ended. It is time to think again of the friends with whom we have journeyed hand-in-hand down the road that has brought us today.

And we should be very happy indeed to have the opportunity and privilege of saying to our friends, "Happy New Year, and may your fondest hopes come into realization in 1938."

Dardens, N. C., January 1, 1938.

Arnold To Speak at Farm Bureau Meet

Farmers of County Urged To Attend Session Here 21st

State Secretary of Bureau Is Recognized as Authority On Organization

"Farmers of this county should attend the monthly meeting of the Washington County Farm Bureau to be held in the agricultural building in Plymouth on Friday night, January 21," said W. Dewey Phelps, president, this week.

This meeting was announced postponed from Friday night, January 14, to Friday night, January 21.

E. F. Arnold, secretary of the North Carolina Farm Bureau at Raleigh, will be the principal speaker, and he usually has a good message for those who will attend.

Mr. Phelps, in urging attendance, says "Agriculture is at the fork of the road, and the question is: Which road are we farmers going to take?"

"One road leads to compulsory crop-production control, which will make a prosperous agriculture, and the other road is that of uncontrolled production which leads to bankruptcy and ruin for the farmers."

"I urge those who are interested in equal educational opportunities and other home life advantages to attend this meeting and rally around with a helping hand for the farmers," concludes Mr. Phelps.

"Panay" Bombing On Screen Here

Actual scenes of the bombing of the U. S. ship "Panay" by Japanese airplanes on the Yangtze River in China are being shown in the Plymouth Theatre Thursday and Friday of this week.

Shep Brinkley and his sister, Miss Marion Brinkley, prove to the theatre goers in this section that they are on the job in securing the latest pictures here, as this is the first showing of the film in this section.

After sinking the ship, the Japanese, following a curt note of protest from the United States, submitted a formal note of apology and promise of indemnities.

Through her son, Sheriff J. K. Reid, this paper procured from Mrs. Mamie DeCormis Reid a copy of the Roanoke Beacon that was issued May 16, 1890, almost 47 years ago.

The mast-head revealed that W. Fletcher Ausbon was the editor and C. V. W. Ausbon the business manager. The issue contained eight pages, each page having six columns.

The issue was volume two, number 1. This gave the information that there had been only 52 issues before this time. It must have been established as the Beacon along in 1889, which is the date claimed by the different owners.

Here are excerpts from a lead editorial:

"At all times the Beacon has striven to advance the political, social and financial interests of all. We are sorry to say that the success of the Beacon is not credited to the business men of Plymouth, while a part of them have given us some support, yet the majority have appeared indifferent, taking no interest in it at all.

"We hope as the Beacon enters its second volume that our people will come to our assistance. If the people wish a good paper they must help to make it such."

Excerpts from a marriage at that time:

"On Wednesday morning, the Baptist Church was crowded to its capacity with those assembled to witness the marriage of J. E. Reid and Miss Magie C. DeCormis. The bridal party entered while Mrs. J. E. Davenport played a wedding march.

Reports Required By Peanut Pickers

Reports from those operating threshing machines in Washington County have not been handed in to the register of deeds in accordance with the law governing this, and Mrs. Mary S. Cahoon is anxious that all reports be filed immediately.

The law requires that these reports be filed by December 15, and there are certain penalties for those who fail to report on time.

Last year 50 licenses to thresh peanuts were issued, while this year only 47 have been applied for. However, there are some new ones, and it is possible that some of the old ones are not threshing this year.

Mrs. Cahoon urges those who have not reported to do so at once to prevent any further trouble that might arise.

Sanitary Market and Grocery Gets New Location This Week

Move To Stand Formerly Occupied by City Market And Grocery Co.

New and larger quarters were secured by the young men of the Sanitary Market and Grocery this week when they moved into the stand on Water street formerly operated by the City Market and Grocery Company.

E. G. Arps, owner of the City Market and Grocery, has decided to discontinue operation of the store as his time was devoted to his duties as chairman of the ABC board and the operation of his drug store.

Lewis Price and Harry Chopick, Jr., moved into their new place of business on Wednesday and were well satisfied with the business done in the new and larger location.

The Sanitary firm took over the lease on the building of Mr. Arps from its owner A. L. Owens but did not purchase the entire stock of Mr. Arps. They did retain the fixtures, also, of the City firm.

These two popular young fellows started in business for themselves several months ago and since that time have won a place in the business world of Plymouth.

Mrs. H. A. Litchfield Dies Wednesday at Home in Creswell

Funeral Held Thursday Afternoon for Well-Known Resident of County

Funeral services were scheduled to be held Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock for Mrs. Irene Litchfield, 81, widow of the late H. A. Litchfield, who died Wednesday morning at 7 a. m., after an illness of several weeks.

Dr. G. A. Martin, pastor of the Baptist church, was to officiate. Interment was to take place in the old family cemetery near the home place, where the last rites were held.

Mrs. Litchfield was one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of the Creswell section. She was born on the old Wilson Norman place and at two years of age moved to the Jesse Norman place, where she lived the remainder of her life.

Surviving are the following children: Daughters, Mrs. A. L. Holmes, Creswell, and Mrs. C. W. Read, Hertford; daughter-in-law, Mrs. Ruth Litchfield, Creswell; and two sons, H. A. Litchfield, jr., Emporia, Va.; and R. L. Litchfield, Creswell.

Breach of Promise Suit for \$40,000 Is Entered in Tyrrell

Mrs. Mae Simmons and J. F. Snell Principals in Action; Residents of Creswell

Probably the first suit of its kind entered by a resident of Washington County was started this week when papers were filed in the Tyrrell County Superior Court by Mrs. Mae Simmons asking \$40,000 as damages for a breach of marriage promise by Julius F. Snell. Both parties are prominent citizens of the Creswell section.

Mrs. Simmons alleges in the complaint that while she was operating a store in Creswell and two farms in Tyrrell County in the fall of 1927, Mr. Snell "expressed great admiration for her and informed her that he would like to call on her socially; that it was his intention to win her love and affection and propose marriage, if she was inclined to pernit his courtship."

A year later, the complaint says, Mr. Snell renewed his proposal of marriage, and they were engaged to be married Easter of the following year.

When the Easter of the nuptial arrived, Mr. Snell, says the document, began to make excuses claiming that he was not ready for marriage. Then he claimed that conditions in Mrs. Simmons' family were objectionable but these obstacles were removed one after another, alleges Mrs. Simmons.

This condition of non-compliance continued without Mrs. Simmons' consent until October, 1927, when Mr. Snell "definitely informed her that he had absolutely and definitely decided not to marry her, thereby breaching his promise."

Claiming that the breach of promise was "willful, wanton and malicious, has inflicted disappointment, punishment and suffering to such depth that she shall never be able to eradicate from her life," Mrs. Simmons is asking compensatory damages of \$20,000 and punitive damages of \$20,000.

Though the suit was filed in Tyrrell County, both are residents of Creswell in Washington County. Zeb Vance Norman is the attorney for Mrs. Simmons. Superior Court will convene in February in Columbia, but it is not considered likely that the case will be heard at this time.

Mr. Reid was elected sheriff and served for a number of years before his death, being succeeded by his son, J. K. Reid.

Census takers included N. B. Yeager, W. H. Stubbs, Thomas Pollard, C. W. Snell, J. H. Snell.

In the advertising columns were ads from D. O. Brinkley and Company, dealers in foreign and domestic wines and liquors, cigars, canned goods and dice; L. E. Jackson, tonsorial artist; Dr. E. L. Cox, physician; L. T. Houston, groceries; Hornthal and Brother, commission and forwarding merchants and dry goods.

C. L. Pettigrew, attorney at law; sewing machines for sale by J. W. Bryan; buggies and carriages were advertised by George R. Bateman and H. Peal and C. T. Howard; H. H. Brown sold monuments; T. W. Blount, Roper, offered \$5 for a "barrel of his flour that is not as prepared."

Thomas S. Armistead was one of the leading magistrates at that time; G. H. Hardison reported prices for

the Beacon as a leader in general merchandise; J. W. Bryan operated a drug store here and the back page was filled with medicine ads.

Three columns on the front page were devoted to a sermon by the Rev. Mr. Talmadge, a Brooklyn "divine." There were items from all over the world. No local items on front page.

The County Officials

Council Rescinds Action Permitting Remittance of Tax

Statute Showing Illegality of Proceeding Cited by City Attorney Norman

The Plymouth City Council in session here Monday night rescinded a previous action made in remitting about \$300 worth of taxes on property for T. S. Lucas, who asked this privilege for civic interest manifested in the sale of his property as a site for the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company instead of handling the matter through speculators.

The council members' change of mind came about when Attorney Z. V. Norman cited them to a section of the North Carolina law prohibiting this action and pointing out that they would be individually liable in a civil action for the amount contained in any refund.

The law follows: "No council of a town . . . shall have the power to release, discharge, remit or commute any portion of the taxes assessed and levied against any property or person within their respective jurisdiction whatever;

"Any tax so discharged, released, remitted or commuted may be recovered by a civil action from the members of any such board at the suit of any citizen of the town, and when collected shall be paid to the proper treasurer."

This section, however, does not refer to officials sitting as a board of equalization and review of property valuation. The section also was not to be construed as "exempting any taxpayer or property owner from liability for taxes, released, discharged, remitted or commuted in violation of the section."

Town Auto Plates Are Being Sold by Ladies' Aid Society

Similar To State Tags in Lettering and Color; Will Be Used To Advertise Town

Whatever else can be said about the sale of auto tags here by the Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Church, it is truly said that it is an unusual method of raising money for church purposes.

Rev. C. T. Thrift and P. W. Brown and others of the church are selling these tags, which are similar to the State tags in letters and colors, but are the size of those usually used in cities where an auto license is required.

The church folk purchased 100 of the plates and are selling them at \$1 each. Inscribed on them are the words: "Plymouth, N. C., The Town of Opportunity."

For a number of years the town sold these license tags for town autos, but in recent years they hardly sold enough to pay for their manufacture and they became discouraged.

For the last two or three years they have not sold any because of the prior low revenue received and the trouble and expense incurred in their manufacture and sale and the enforcement of their use.

So far as is known, this is the first time in this immediate section that tags similar to the state license tags have ever been sold, and probably never before by a church organization.

Anyone who wishes the people to know where they hail from is urged to purchase them, whether they live within the town limits or not, according to the Rev. Mr. Thrift, pastor.

Scale of State Tax on Intangibles Outlined

ILLEGALLY MARRIED

Three couples who secured marriage license from Mrs. Mary S. Cahoon, register of deeds of Washington County, during the holidays are not married, technically speaking. She is making an effort to locate them and so advise them.

The reason, as given by Mrs. Cahoon, is that the couples were married in other counties contrary to law. One couple was married by a Pitt County justice and the other in Martin county.

They will be required to marry again in the county in which the license were issued.

Acceptances Slow To Come in for Dinner Next Week

Being Staged by Lions Club and Merchants Association Thursday, January 13

So far only about three of the 35 or more out of town men who were invited to attend the dinner of the Lions club and Merchants association on Thursday night, January 13, have accepted the courtesy, according to Rev. N. A. Taylor, Lion secretary.

However, the two organizations were intending to invite about 150 but before all of the invitations were put into the mail the number was curtailed to about 100 as it was found that it would be almost impossible to serve over 110 in the community hall.

There is expected to be a goodly number of merchants and Lions present but it appears at this time that the out of town persons invited have manifested little interest in the event, as they have failed to return their acceptance cards.

W. L. Whitley aided in the selection of those invited and says that some of the most influential men of Washington, Tyrrell and Hyde counties had been invited to the affair.

There is not expected to be a principal speaker as several are expected to prepare short talks on the town of Plymouth that would be of special interest to the out of town guests.

Chief P. W. Brown who is in charge of serving for the Lions and Merchants has issued instructions to the Woman's Club to prepare places for only 100, and some fear that not many more than 85 will attend.

Will Install Church Board Here Sunday

The official board of the Plymouth Christian church will sit in a body at the regular morning service Sunday, at which time they will be installed, according to Rev. N. T. Taylor, pastor of the church.

Included in this group are E. H. Liverman, W. L. Whitley, W. C. Chesson, P. D. Allen, M. G. Darden, J. W. Darden, elders; and Rudolph Beasley, Gilmer Ayers, Herman Spencer, W. W. Browning, S. D. Davis, A. T. Darden, P. H. Darden, Roy Swain, G. W. Bowen, Hubert Allen, Archie Modlin, Goldie Simpson, deacons.

"In turn," says Rev. Mr. Taylor, "the members will show their loyalty to the new officials by cooperating in making this a successful church year and by attending the services during the year in large numbers."

In addition to his newspaper work which brought him a measure of renown for his editorial writings, he was, as president of the North Carolina Christian Missionary Convention for 15 years, head of the Christian church in the state. He was also president of the State Board of the Christian church and president of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association of North Carolina at the time of his death, a member of the board of trustees of Atlantic Christian College, Wilson, and had served on the executive committee of the North Carolina Press Association, as well as register of deeds for Martin County for 10 years.

Mr. Manning's first consideration was for his church and he came to Plymouth often in connection with work for the denomination up to a few years ago. He was also active in several fraternal organizations and president of the Eastern Carolina Firemen's Association for several years, and these organizations also made him a frequent visitor here.

Born in Griffins Township, near Jamesville, on February 3, 1871, Mr. Manning was the son of the Hon. (Continued on page six)

Not Subject To Levy By County and Town As in Former Years

Abstracts for Listing Expected To Be Received in County This Month

Some time this month abstracts will be received by taxpayers in Washington County for listing their intangibles for taxation by the State as a result of legislation enacted in the 1937 General Assembly.

This marks the first step of the State back into the property tax field, and it comes about as a result of the constitutional amendment adopted in 1936 permitting classification of property for taxation.

As in the case with income tax, payments are due on March 15th. Heretofore the town and county have not been notably successful in getting intangibles listed because people here just wouldn't list them.

The scale for charges is as follows: Bank deposits, 10 cents per \$100; money on hand, 20 cents per \$100 in excess of \$300; accounts receivable, 25 cents per \$100 in excess of \$300 after deducting current bills payable; funds left with insurance companies, 25 cents per \$100.

Bonds, mortgages, and other evidences of debt, 40 cents per \$100 in excess of \$300, with certain deductions; shares of stock, 30 cents per \$100 in excess of \$300, with certain deductions.

This money is collected by the State but 50 percent of it will be returned to the towns and country. The amount for this county will be divided among the towns and county according to the ratio of ad valorem tax levies made by each during the preceding fiscal year.

The bank will collect bank deposit tax and not the State revenue officials. Name of the depositor and the amount of money he has in the bank will not be divulged. The bank has until March 15 to make the returns but it was due and payable on January 31, 1937.

W. C. Manning Dies In Williamston After Long Period Illness

Formerly Had Extensive Interests in This County; Funeral Monday

William Christian Manning, 67, editor of the Williamston Enterprise, and for over a third of a century a prominent figure in religious, civic, political and business life of Martin County, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Elbert S. Peele, in Williamston Sunday morning after an illness of nearly three years. Chronic high blood pressure and complications were the cause of his death.

Mr. Manning was well known in Washington County, where he had extensive interests in former years. Besides owning a farm in the county at one time he was founder of the Williamston Telephone Co., which operated the local exchange until its purchase by the Carolina company in 1926. He was also a partner in the firm which purchased The Roanoke Beacon in 1930, and was editor until a few years ago. He was particularly interested in the home demonstration work of the county and was regular visitor at the federal meetings as long as his health permitted.

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