

**THE Roanoke Beacon and Washington County News**

**PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY**  
In Plymouth, Washington County,  
North Carolina

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Friday, July 15, 1938

**Keep the Train and Improve the Service**

Action of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company in petitioning the Utilities Commission for permission to remove the passenger train operating between Plymouth and Tarboro came in for considerable discussion at the merchants' association meeting last week.

Figures presented at a recent special meeting of the association called to hear Mr. Page, a representative of the railroad—who, incidentally, does his traveling in this section by automobile—indicated that the company was losing money hand-over-fist in operating this particular train. Since no local person had figures to prove otherwise, there was a general disposition to agree that the railroad was justified in its action and there was little opposition expressed.

However, since Mr. Page presented his side of the matter, several local people have taken the trouble to get figures of their own. These would indicate, to be charitable, that the railroad's figures were somewhat exaggerated in some cases, where losses were concerned, and slightly underrated in others, where income from normal sources was concerned. Some of these facts were cited at the meeting last Thursday; and, as a result, the merchants decided to send representatives to the Raleigh hearing to oppose removal of the train.

Far be it from us to try to determine who is presenting the right

set of figures. There are as many different ways to keep books and figure as there are people to do the bookkeeping and the figuring. However, there are some palpable inconsistencies in the statements made by Mr. Page and facts determined by local people.

It is a fact that the train operating on its present schedule cannot hope to give any sort of service which would appeal to the general traveling public. But there is more than a suspicion that the railroad does not want this train to give service; that, realizing this particular run cannot be made profitable, they have deliberately set about presenting the darkest picture possible in order to eliminate the train entirely.

If a little better service was provided, the loss might be reduced considerably, possible to the point where the cost could be charged off as an investment in good will. This good will should be worth something to the company, because it is admitted that this branch line as a whole is profitable, the freight business taking up the slack. The railroad cannot hope to build up a friendly feeling by refusing to give service, eliminating trains and jobs held by local people.

Another thing, good will established now will undoubtedly pay big dividends to the railroad after the opening of the new sound bridge, when motor freight lines will begin operating in and out of Plymouth on regular schedules, providing even more active competition than is now the case. Certainly, local people will be inclined to patronize a company which at least makes an honest effort to save the jobs of their neighbors and customers of local merchants.

Plymouth people want to keep this train running, but they also want it to give better service. If the service is provided, then they believe the business will show an increase. These factors should be given consideration by the Utilities Commission when the hearing on the railroad's petition is heard on August 2.

**Up To Us To Put Our Best Foot Forward**

The local merchants' association took a commendable step in making a \$50 donation for the building of the float representing Washington County's contribution to the parade at the opening of the Albemarle

Sound bridge on August 25. This float, which will be a miniature replica of the Confederate States iron-clad, "Albemarle," will cost a total of \$150, so the committee headed by Mr. James W. Norman still has a long way to go.

The significance of having the "Albemarle" reproduced to represent this county is probably too well known to need repeating here. This vessel, an iron-clad ram, constructed along the same lines as the famed "Merrimac," was built at Halifax Flats, up the Roanoke River, for the express purpose of defending this river from marauding Federal gunboats during the War Between the States. It met and defeated a whole flotilla of the Union Navy at Sandy Point, only a few hundred yards from the southern end of the new bridge. The "Albemarle" was later sunk in the river right here at Plymouth by a torpedo daringly placed against it by a Union naval officer and a few men under cover of darkness.

The committee did well in its selection of a subject for Washington County's float. It is now up to the people of the county to see that the committee's idea is carried out in a creditable manner. Donations are needed to complete the building of the float and patriotic organizations and individuals are urged to see Mr. Norman and do their part.

**Drives Past Cup But Holes Out on Bound**

T. W. Earle made a freak shot on the golf course here Sunday that takes rank with the stories of drives bouncing off trees, fences, cows, and other objects and holing out.

His tee shot on the second hole left him out of sight of the cup, and he missed the ball on his second stroke. He aimed for the green and let fly with a mighty drive that soared well on past the green, to the astonishment of himself and the group he was playing with. After looking about for a while, the caddies and his companions decided the ball was lost and they were about to give up the search. One caddy decided to have one last look around and found the ball nestling snugly in the hole, the last place it was figured to be.

After talking it over, it was decided the ball went to the railroad track, hit the iron rails and bounced back to the green and rolled into the cup. The total distance covered was well over 200 yards.

Mr. Earle was playing with O. H. Cox and E. F. Still at the time.

**FOR SALE: GOOD TWO-WHEEL** trailer. Well built and in good condition. Norman Furniture Co. 11

**Rambling ... About**

By THE RAMBLER

**We Are Peculiar People—**

To the people of other countries, we Americans must indeed appear to be a very peculiar and eccentric people. We hire a man to do some particular job for us which we admit we aren't capable of doing ourselves, and then we proceed to tell him exactly how and what he should do and raise Cain if he doesn't do it like we say.

Look at the newspapers today. They are filled with the writings of columnists who are advocating that the heads of our government, state and national, do the things they are hired to do in some other manner than the way they are doing them. If these birds know so much about conducting the affairs of the state and nation, then why in the name of common sense don't some of them get into positions where they could try out their ideas? It looks as if we must have elected the wrong men in every instance, because the things they do never suit these wise boys, everyone of whom has a different opinion as to how they should be handled.

**For Instance—**

Take the writings of some of our supposedly leading political commentators; for shining examples, the Dorothy Thompsons, Frank R. Kents, General Hugh Johnsons, Boak Carters, and so on ad infinitum and possibly ad nauseum. Goodness knows, the present national administration has made its share of mistakes, but there just ain't enough mistakes possible to cause the amount of criticism which this group has turned out in reams. If we had sufficient insurance against every form of calamity, pestilence, war, disease, flood, storm, and a good cyclone cellar handy to which we could retire, we'd like the affairs of the country turned over to this bunch for 30 days or so, and then just see if we could ever live to see things get back to normal again.

**We Tried One of Them—**

Of the whole crew named above, just one that we recall has ever been given a trial at running things instead of telling others how to run them. That one was General Hugh Johnson, and he was put in charge of the late Blue Eagle, or NRA; remember? No one ever started out as administrator of anything under more favorable circumstances; business, industry, politicians, professional men, and the people in general were all willing to cooperate; the universal cry was "Do something, even if it's wrong." He did, and it apparently was. Outside of coining the expressions, "Crack down" and

"dead cats" we do not remember anything of lasting impression which he contributed to the American scene at that period.

He went out of office the target of criticism from every walk of life, especially the anti-administrationists; and, yet just a short while later, we find him one of the most vociferous in denouncing administration policies and the "darling" of the same crowd that put the skids under him. One thing about it, he certainly ought to be qualified to tell anybody how not to do anything, because if he did one single thing right while he was in charge of the NRA, they've certainly cheated him out of the credit.

**It's Just Our Way—**

But to get back to our way of hiring people to do things we can't do and then raising hob because they don't do it the way we think they should, it isn't only in governmental affairs that this applies. Look at baseball. The ball club hires a manager, and then half the fans and directors get mad with him because he plays somebody they don't think he should, or because he doesn't play somebody they do think he should, or because he bunts when we figure he should have hit away, or because he puts on the hit-and-run and the batter strikes out, or because he parts his hair in the middle, or something. In other words, if things aren't going so good, everything the man in charge does is wrong, and we make no bones about saying so.

Business is conducted a little differently. A corporation hires a manager for a shop, and so long as the shop shows a profit the corporation doesn't care how he does it; he's the boss, and none can say him nay. But woe betide him if he can't produce. The chief difference here is that we will not give the man in public life—or baseball—a chance to produce without subjecting him to all sorts of abuse and criticism while he is getting things lined up to function.

the way he thinks they ought to. Even at that, though, we believe we'd prefer the American way to that of some other countries. In a number of them, they don't criticize a man for making a mistake—they just shoot him or hang him and start over again, just like that.

**Most of Them Are—**

The reason why fathers are usually heroes to their young'uns is well illustrated by the following colloquy between little Johnnie and his dad: "Papa, when you see a cow, ain't you afraid?" "Of course not, Johnnie." "When you see a great big worm, ain't you afraid?" "No, certainly not." "When you see a monstrous bumble bee, ain't you afraid?" "No, indeed not, Johnnie." "Well, ain't you scared when it thunders and lightnings?" "No, no; you silly child." "Gee, Pop, ain't you afraid of nothing in this world 'cepting Mama?"

**Bad Company Indeed—**

"How in the world did you come to get so completely intoxicated?" the magistrate asked a man before him for trial. "I got into bad company. Your Honor. You see, there were four of us. I had a bottle of whiskey—and the other three wouldn't drink a drop."

And then there's the story of the inebriated gentleman who watched a fat lady get on the scales to be weighed. She didn't know the scales were out of order and dropped in a penny. The needle went around to 75 pounds—and then stopped. He looked intently at the scales and then at the lady. "My gosh," he said, "She's hollow!"

**PALMICO BEACH COTTAGE FOR** Rent. Seven rooms completely furnished, boat included. If interested, see or write D. V. Clayton, Williamston, N. C. jy8 tf

**PLEASANT GROVE**

Mrs. W. A. Swain accompanied Mrs. T. B. Bell and Mrs. J. C. Swain to Washington Thursday to visit Mrs. J. C. Tarkenton at a hospital there. Mrs. Elizabeth Spruill returned from Greensboro Wednesday after spending some time with her daughter, Mrs. Will Thompson.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Woodley and daughter, Rachel, of Columbia, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edley Hutchins Sunday. Mrs. Mattie Swain, Mr. and Mrs. Ned Swain and Mrs. Ruth Sitterson, of Westover, spent onday with Mrs. W. A. Swain. Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Chesson and children were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Davenport in Columbia Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Lamb visited in Cherry Sunday.

Mrs. Ella Waters, Mrs. H. G. Spruill, Mrs. Ruby Collins, and Charles Snell were in Washington Wednesday. Mrs. J. C. Tarkenton returned from a Washington hospital Sunday and is recuperating nicely.

Miss Virginia Tarkenton, of Atlantic Christian College, spent the week-end at home.

**Watts**

WILLIAMSTON

Thur.-Fri. July 14-15

GINGER ROGERS and JAMES STEWART IN "VIVACIOUS LADY"

Sat. July 16 1 To 11 P. M.

"SINGING OUTLAW" with BOB BAKER

Sun., July 17 3 and 9 P. M.

BARBARA STANWYCK and HERBERT MARSHALL in "Always Good-Bye"

Mon.-Tues. July 18-19

DANIELLE DARRIEUX and Douglas FAIRBANKS, Jr. in "The Rage of Paris"

Wed., July 20 Mat. 3:30

"STATE POLICE"

with John King, William Lundigan, Constance Moore

**Marco**


WILLIAMSTON

Fri.-Sat. July 15-16

HELEN HAYES, GARY COOPER, ADOLPHE MENJOU in

"A FAREWELL TO ARMS"

**"I OUGHT TO KNOW TOBACCO."**



A MAN WHO GROWS TOBACCO GETS TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCES IN TOBACCO QUALITY. AND HE SEES WHO GETS THE BEST TOBACCO. TIME AND AGAIN, CAMEL HAS BOUGHT MY CHOICE LOTS—LIKE LAST YEAR. CAMEL PAYS MORE TO GET THE BEST. NATURALLY WE PLANTERS SMOKE CAMELS. WE KNOW CAMEL BUYS TOP-QUALITY TOBACCO

ALL cigarettes alike? Ask the men who grow tobacco. They know Camels are different. And they know why—FINER, MORE EXPENSIVE TOBACCO!

Try Camels today. See for yourself why millions of smokers say: "CAMELS AGREE WITH ME."

**"WE SMOKE CAMELS BECAUSE WE KNOW TOBACCO"** TOBACCO PLANTERS SAY

**Condensed Statement of Condition of Branch Banking & Trust Co.**

PLYMOUTH, N. C.

At the Close of Business June 30, 1938

**Resources**

Cash and due from banks	\$6,139,098.78	
Obligations of the United States	4,836,846.21	
Federal Land Bank Bonds	907,326.77	
Federal Home Loan Bank Debentures	99,994.38	
North Carolina Bonds	309,285.06	
Municipal and other marketable bonds	1,831,994.86	
Other Stocks and Bonds	19,506.00	14,144,052.06
Loans and Discounts		3,230,136.77
Accrued Interest and Accounts Receivable		82,976.09
Banking Houses, Furniture & Fixtures & real estate		234,515.71
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$17,691,680.63</b>

**Liabilities**

Capital Stock—Common	\$ 400,000.00
Capital Stock—Preferred	396,000.00
Surplus	400,000.00
Undivided Profits	605,362.95
Reserves	269,450.00
Dividend Payable July 1, 1938	8,000.00
Unearned Discount and Other Liabilities	53,799.38
<b>DEPOSITS</b>	<b>15,559,068.30</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,691,680.63</b>

Upon the Strength of the Above Statement and the Backing of Our Directors, We Solicit your Business, Promising Every Accommodation Consistent With Sound Banking.

**Sound Banking and Trust Service for Eastern Carolina**