

ATTAIN HIGHEST RANK IN SCOUTING LAST WEEK



Douglas Gurkin and Wilford Whitley, members of the Plymouth Boy Scout Troop, last week became the first boys in Washington County to attain Scouting's highest rank, that of Eagle Scout.

The congregation of the Grace Episcopal Church here last Sunday elected the following members of the vestry to serve for the term of one year: C. E. Ayers, H. A. Williford, Lloyd Horton, Sidney A. Ward, Jr., R. A. Duvall, and W. F. Winslow.

After selling his stock to a firm from Norfolk, it is understood from E. H. Liverman that he plans to resign as president of the Plymouth Merchants Association when that body meets again in a few days for various reasons.

Lloyd Owens went down to the town dock at the rear of the market to look over a motor boat during the heavy snow and rain Thursday. His feet slipped and he landed in the river. Although it was a little cold for swimming, Lloyd suffered no ill-effects from his misadventure.

H. H. McLean is still awaiting word from PWA officials, who are weeks behind in their promise to send the balance of the grant on the Creswell school building so the contractor can be paid and the handsome new structure turned over to school authorities for use.

Sam Scherr, who is opening a store this week in the building formerly occupied by T. C. Burgess, is a brother-in-law of Dave Kulman. The two merchants married sisters. Mr. Scherr hopes to be ready for business by the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Beale have charge of the North Carolina Pulp Company cafeteria and the Plymouth Country Club temporarily, succeeding Mr. and Mrs. Charles Watson, who left here several days ago. It is not known who will be the permanent managers.

An Acapella choir has been organized here under the instruction of Shep Brinkley, organist at the Methodist church. Practice will be held each Friday night between 7 and 8. The project is sponsored by the Young Business Women's Missionary Society of the church.

Dr. W. H. Johnson will leave Sunday for Washington, D. C., where he will attend the Five-State Post-Graduate Clinic at the Mayflower Hotel. He will be in his office again on next Friday, as he will not stay for the last day of the session.

Bill Davenport, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Davenport, returned Wednesday from Richmond, where he attended a meeting of a paint company. Held at a hotel there, Mr. Davenport said that he thoroughly enjoyed the event.

Sheriff J. K. Reid, who went to St. Luke's Hospital in Richmond last week for treatment, returned to Plymouth Sunday night, reporting that he was feeling much better. He has been at his office this week.

Steam Tug Burned At Mouth of River

Fire that was thought to have originated when the boat struck the side of the channel, tilting the stove, completely destroyed the coal-burning steam tug "Winthrop" in the mouth of Roanoke River at 12:20 last Friday morning, causing an estimated loss of \$20,000, according to the captain and owner, P. P. Walker, of Norfolk.

The captain and his crew of four men made their way to the shore of the river after launching a small boat and, after spending the night in the swamps, they were brought to Plymouth the next morning by passing fishermen.

Captain Walker said the tug was a complete loss as it was burned to the water's edge and sank, with only the boilers and some of the metal superstructure visible. The captain said the whole boat was a mass of flames almost before the fire was discovered. River traffic will not be seriously handicapped, as the wreck is not directly in the channel, it is understood.

Bill To Increase Pay of Town Officials Introduced

A bill has been introduced in the house of representatives by W. M. Darden to change the charter of the Town of Plymouth so as to establish a per diem fee of \$3 per meeting for the town councilmen and increasing the salary of the mayor to \$25 per month.

The bill reached the legislative hopper Monday, but was referred to the committee on counties, cities and towns. It is expected the measure will pass without opposition.

The bill is designed to increase attendance at meetings by councilmen and to remunerate the mayor for the increased services which he must render.

Name of Marjorie Bateman Left Off Creswell Honor Roll

Creswell.—The four children of Mrs. W. W. Bateman have been on the honor roll each month during the present term of the Creswell schools, but, due to a printer's error, the name of Marjorie Bateman was unintentionally left out of the list for the fourth month in the paper last week. Her name should have been included with those of her brothers and sister, Billy Wells, Robert and Betty Jean.

Local Sea Scouts May Secure Self-Bailing Surf Boat

Negotiations are in progress now to secure a 28-foot self-bailing surf boat for the local crew of Sea Scouts, who are planning to appropriately name it "The Albemarle," because of the historical interest attached to the Confederate vessel of the same name which was based here during the Civil War.

Dr. A. Papineau is skipper of the local Sea Scouts, with Blount Rodman as first mate and Alvah Wheaton as second mate. The following boys, as apprentices, are members of the crew: Duncan Getsinger, Douglas Gurkin, Ducky Lloyd, Phil Liverman, Wilford Whitley, Asa Rogers, and J. C. Jones. Two others are to be named later.

First-Class Boy Scouts over 15 years of age are eligible to join the Sea Scouts.

Bill Would Permit Creswell Tax Raise

Representative W. M. Darden is expected to introduce a bill in the house of representatives at Raleigh this week amending the charter of the Town of Creswell so as to permit the levy of a tax rate as high as \$1.50 if it is found necessary.

The charter now provides, according to C. L. Bailey, who drafted the bill at the request of Creswell officials for introduction by Mr. Darden, that no more than 50 cents can be levied on the \$100 valuation.

It is not thought it will be necessary to raise the tax rate there immediately, but the charter change is necessary if the town should decide it needs additional improvements.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sherr Here To Open New Store

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Scherr arrived with their son this week to make their home in Plymouth, where they will operate a mercantile establishment in the store building formerly occupied by the Burgess Shoe and Clothing Store, carrying ladies', childrens and infants' ready to wear and men's clothing and furnishings.

Additions to their stock are arriving daily, including spring and Easter ready to wear. They hope to have remodeling of the building completed and their stock arranged so that they can open next Friday with a sale.

First March Snowfall in Years Here Thursday

Residents of this section awoke Thursday morning to find it raining, snowing and then sleeting, and the thermometer on the down-grade, threatening to reach the lowest level of the entire winter season.

This was the first snow here in March since the record snow of March 1, 1927, when the white flakes buried the countryside to a depth of 12 to 20 inches. Older residents recalled the other heavy March snow, which came after gardens and flowers had been planted, as is the case now.

Elbert Peel Speaker At Lions Club Meet In Roper Last Week

Says World Need of Today Is To Be "Lion-ized"; Number Visitors Present

"What the world needs today is to be Lion-ized," Elbert S. Peel, Williamston attorney and former state senator from this district, told the members of the Plymouth Lions Club and their guests at a meeting held in the Roper school last Thursday night.

The speaker said that if the nations of the world were to live by the ideals laid down in the Lions' code and were to practice the Golden Rule as taught by the Scriptures then there would be no such atrocities as have been practiced in the last few months.

Italy would not have overrun and seized the smaller countries, the Germans would not have reverted backward 200 years in their treatment of the Jews, and Spain would not be embroiled in a destructive and horrible civil conflict if they had known and practiced Lions' precepts, Mr. Peel pointed out.

Instead of breeding war and hatred, this organization helps relieve human suffering by its acts in the interest of the blind, and this club does its bit to preserve good fellowship among the business men by having a fair and honorable code of ethics.

"And I verily believe," the speaker concluded, "that if the people of the world were Lion-ized, it would be a much better place in which to live."

Guests of the club members from the Roper vicinity included J. H. Gaylord, III, Rev. M. L. Ambrose, F. D. Wilson, J. J. Hassell, W. T. Freeman, T. P. Sanderson, and Johnny Boyd, of Plymouth.

The mothers of the Boy Scouts served a delicious dinner.

16-Year-Old Girl Dies at Creswell

Creswell.—Funeral services were held Thursday for Miss Lena Rivers Spruill, 16, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Spruill, with the Rev. J. T. Stanford officiating, assisted by the Rev. Forest Wagoner and Dr. G. A. Martin. Interment took place in White Chapel cemetery.

Assisted by Louis Spruill, the M. E. choir sang three special numbers. Surviving, in addition to her parents, are the following sisters, Mrs. Leroy Cahoon, Columbia; Misses Helen and Nell Spruill, Creswell; three brothers, R. L. Jr., Dan Griffin, and Bill Spruill, all of Creswell.

THAT MAN AGAIN

A representative of the internal revenue department will be at the post office in Plymouth on Saturday, March 4, for the purpose of assisting taxpayers in filing their income-tax returns.

March 15 is the deadline for filing returns, both state and federal, and those who wish aid in filling out the blanks should see the deputy while he is here Saturday.

Recorder Criticizes Juries for Verdicts In Whiskey Cases

Says Gross Miscarriages of Justice Have Resulted From Decisions

Exasperated by the large number of defendants charged with liquor law violations who have been acquitted by juries in recorder's court, Judge John W. Darden cracked down on this practice Tuesday, when only one of three defendants arraigned on whiskey counts was found guilty by the jury.

"The public shall know," says Recorder Darden, "that this court and its officers are not responsible for the gross miscarriages of justice which have taken place here as a result of verdicts brought in by juries here, and unless these men assume their responsibility as officers of the court it will be impossible to break up the illegal liquor traffic."

"It has not been my practice," the judge continued, "to criticize either publicly or privately juries which serve in this court; but these juries must find people guilty when they are guilty, or the public will suffer from this lack of cooperation by juries and court with law enforcement officers."

The recorder was vexed as a result of verdicts in a case in which three negroes, Matthew Griffin, 30, Lafayette Cabarrus, 30, and Vance Brooks, 23, were charged with being publicly drunk, possessing whiskey for sale, and transporting non-tax-paid whiskey. Only Cabarrus was found guilty, and he on one count of possession. Officers found the whiskey in a car with the three men and testified that all three were drunk.

Alexander Ambrose Final Rites Sunday

Creswell.—Funeral services for Alexander Ambrose, 76, who died Friday night at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Tillie Spruill, after a lingering illness, were conducted Sunday afternoon at Phillip Christian Church. The Rev. L. B. Bennett officiated, assisted by the Rev. T. F. Davenport. Interment took place in the family cemetery near the home.

Mr. Ambrose was a well-known farmer and a life-long resident of Washington County.

Pall-bearers were: Earl Long, Edenton; Isaac Furlough, W. D. Phelps, Arthur Woodley, Jesse Craddock and Harry Craddock.

Surviving, besides his daughter, Mrs. Tillie Spruill, is one son, Warren Ambrose, Ocean View, Va., and one sister, Mrs. Martha Ambrose, of Creswell.

New Minister at Creswell Church

Creswell.—The Rev. Wood B. Gaither, formerly rector of St. David's Parish, in Ahoskie, has accepted the rectorship of St. David's and Christ Episcopal churches, Creswell; Lake Phelps Mission, and St. Andrew's church in Columbia.

A World War veteran, the Rev. Mr. Gaither began his ministry at a mission in Ahoskie. He studied at the Virginia Theological Seminary and recently has served parishes in Kentucky and eastern North Carolina.

A native of Hartford, where his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Wood Gaither, now lives, the new rector is well known in Elizabeth City, where his brothers, C. W. and W. T. Gaither, reside.

Roper Principal To Resume Work Monday After Illness

Roper.—Reports today indicated that Principal D. E. Poole will be sufficiently recovered from a temporary nervous breakdown to resume his work in the Roper High School next Monday.

Bishop Darst To Preach At Local Church Sunday

Bishop Thomas C. Darst, of the Diocese of East Carolina, will make his yearly visit to Grace Episcopal Church here Sunday morning for the 11 o'clock service and celebration of the Holy Communion. The public is cordially invited to attend.

World Day of Prayer Service Held in Creswell

Creswell.—The World Day of Prayer service was conducted here last Friday afternoon with the Revs. Wood B. Gaither, L. B. Bennett and Forest Wagoner in charge.

Mrs. G. A. Martin explained that the collection being taken would be sent to the tornado victims near Windsor. Mrs. A. H. Tucker sang a solo and Mrs. C. W. Gregg made a talk.

Plan To Begin Operation Of Fisheries About 20th

Preparations are now being made by W. R. Hampton to begin operation of the century-old Kitty Hawk and Slade fisheries, located on the converging points of Roanoke, Middle and Cashie Rivers near here, about March 20th.

The huge seines are being tarred and repaired, the cables and machinery are being checked over to have everything in readiness for beginning operations, the definite date of which depends upon a number of conditions, of the least of which is the state of the weather. When the fisheries start up, employment is given to from 30 to 100 people.

A few herring have been caught up

the Roanoke around Williamston and Jamesville in dip and skim nets, and the catch of shad down on the sound is reported to be better this year than it was at the same time last season, although even the veteran fishermen will not hazard a guess as to the prospects for fishing along the river this season.

For the last several years, Mr. Hampton, along with other fishermen, has been disappointed in the annual catch of herring, and operations have been carried on at a loss; but, as is the case every year, they are planning to "put in" the seines again, hoping to recoup the losses sustained in recent years.

Attempt Is Made To Burn School at Roper

Authorities Without Clue To Identity of Would-Be Firebugs

Desks Ransacked Thursday Night and Attempt Made To Burn Records

Roper.—Authorities today were still at a loss to explain the apparent incendiary efforts of a prowler to burn the Roper school building last Thursday night.

When Principal D. E. Poole and his teaching staff reported last Friday morning for work they found that the desks had been ransacked and the contents emptied on the floors in front of the teachers' desks, with evidence that an attempt had been made to burn the various records, report cards and other material kept in the desks.

This same procedure was followed throughout the several classrooms with the exception of the desk of Miss A. C. Carstarphen, which was broken open and a drawer smashed to pieces. This was the only desk that was locked. A hammer and broken handle were found near by.

Some of the documents and records had been burned, but most of them were in such state that they could be reconstructed, as the fire merely burned around the edges.

The Plymouth Lions Club held a meeting there Thursday night, and the janitor declared that the doors were locked after all the visitors had departed. Entrance was apparently gained through an unlatched window on the first floor.

If the prowler really intended to burn the building, officials are wondering why he failed, as the freshly oiled floors offered a fine opportunity for a roaring blaze. There was only one spot where the oil had burned away.

Allot WPA \$42,263 For Road Work

Washington County was included in the group of counties in this section which will have roads improved as the result of an approval by the State Works Progress Administration of a fund of \$42,263.60 to be used for this purpose.

Headquarters for officials who will direct this work will be in Elizabeth City, and the money is to be used only on roads not in the Federal aid highway system.

It is believed and hoped here that the work will be done on secondary roads in this county in an effort to make muddy and bumpy roads passable even during the rainy seasons.

Plant Worker Here Being Held For Boston Officers

Officials here are awaiting extradition papers for Earl R. Westerling, a local plant employee, who is under \$150 bail awaiting to be returned to Boston, Mass., under an action brought in Worcester probate court charging him with being a fugitive from justice.

On April 29, 1930, Westerling was ordered by the court to pay \$12 per week for the support of his minor child, said to be 11 years of age, and since that time has paid only \$200, according to the charge.

The papers further point out that Westerling was in Boston June 28, 1936, to see his child and divorced wife, and since then he has sent \$2 on November 16, 1937, and \$4 in September, 1938, for the child's support.

SCHOOLS TO REOPEN

The Plymouth white schools will reopen Monday morning after having been closed 10 days because of epidemic of influenza resulting in 125 absences last Thursday, when it was decided to close the schools to prevent further spread of the disease.

Principal R. B. Trotman said today that reports indicated the number of cases had decreased, and, barring bad roads caused by the bad weather, the schools will reopen Monday.

Norfolk Men Buy E. H. Liverman Stock Here; Sale Planned

Deal Completed Last Thursday; B. Peiper and M. Wax New Owners

The stock of merchandise in the E. H. Liverman store here has been sold to B. Peiper and M. Wax, of Norfolk, Va., with the deal completed last Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The new owners took possession immediately, although Mr. Liverman is maintaining office space in the store building until he can wind up his affairs in connection with the business.

Mr. Liverman had been in the mercantile business here for about 15 years and had built up a large trade throughout this whole section, his stock being recognized as about the largest in Plymouth.

It is understood that Mr. Liverman's stock inventoried about \$22,000 at the time of the sale, but the price involved in the deal with the Norfolk men was not made known.

A sale will be conducted by the new owners, starting in the building now occupied by Mr. Liverman next Friday, March 10, and the purchasers hope to dispose of the merchandise in a bargain event featuring slaughtered prices, according to Mr. Peiper.

M. Nelson will direct the sale and Mr. Peiper will be associated with him. Both men are well known here, as both of them have been in business here at one time or another, conducting sales of stock including that of the late J. C. Spruill and possibly others.

The salepeople employed by Mr. Liverman were retained by the new owners, and it is likely that a number of additional clerks will be secured for conducting the sale.

Plane Forced Down Is Shipped Home

A Klemm cabin airplane, owned and piloted by Henry Foster, of New York City, was being shipped back to his home today after it had been damaged in an attempted take-off following a forced landing on the farm of Linwood Knowles, near Dardens, Monday afternoon.

Foster said that he got off his course due to low-hanging clouds and when his motor began missing he decided to land. After repairing the motor he attempted to take off again, but due to the soft earth he was not able to get up enough speed to clear a wire fence, damaging a wing, the undercarriage and propeller, although the pilot escaped injury. He then disassembled the ship and sent it home by rail.

Foster said he was on a flight from New York to Miami, Fla., when he lost his course shortly after refueling in Richmond, Va.

\$75,000 Post Office Here Is Approved

A \$75,000 post office building for Plymouth has been approved by the Post Office Department, it was learned here this week. However, authorization of this building was not included in the appropriation of the \$130,000,000 public-building program approved by Congress, according to the congressional committee which announced the project had been approved. It was indicated the Plymouth post office building will be included in the list of eligible projects if Congress decides to expand that program at the present session.

Although on the approved list, the local building will not be undertaken until Congress passes authorization legislation and appropriates the money for it.

Roper Colored Man Hurt By Sudden Stop of Truck

Roscoe Hudson, 35, colored, of Roper, received painful injuries when a truck in which he was riding Monday morning stopped suddenly on Water Street here, throwing him out on the pavement. His head was cut in two places and a knee and one shoulder injured.

Other Negroes in the truck were able to grab the sides to prevent them from being thrown out.

Bertie Tornado Scenes at Plymouth Theatre Sunday

Scenes depicting the destruction wrought by the tornado which swept the Greens Cross section of Bertie County Tuesday of last week will be shown at the Plymouth Theatre here Sunday in connection with the regularly scheduled show, it was announced today by Shep Brinkley. In the meantime, those who wish to contribute to the fund to help relieve the suffering, caused by the tornado may leave their money with Mrs. H. A. Liverman, chairman of the Washington County Red Cross.

Creswell Parents-Teachers Will Meet Next Thursday

Creswell.—The Creswell Parent-Teacher Association will hold its regular meeting next Thursday evening, March 9, at 7:30. The officers urge school patrons to attend.

SELLS STORE HERE



After 15 years in the mercantile business here, E. H. Liverman last week sold his stock to a Norfolk firm. He plans to devote most of his time to operation of his several farms in this section.

Total Bonded Debt In County \$1,171,521

The bonded indebtedness of Washington County and its three municipal subdivisions is 19.05 per cent of the total assessed valuation—or almost one-fifth—based on figures for 1937, according to statistics recently compiled by the North Carolina Classification Commission.

It appeared from the figures that the total debt of the county itself was \$827,021; Plymouth \$288,000; and the remaining \$18,500 divided between Roper and Creswell, bringing the total up to \$1,178,521.

Since 1937 the Town of Plymouth has retired about \$8,000 of its debt and some of the other subdivisions, as well as the county, have retired some of the bonds with funds set aside in a sinking fund raised by a portion of the tax rate.

Permit Use of Dip Nets Until May 1st

As has been the custom since the 1936 season, fishermen in Washington and the several surrounding counties are again this year allowed to use dip or skim nets daily until the end of the commercial fishing season for taking herring in streams where the herring run, it was announced today by Game Protector J. T. Terry upon authority from J. D. Chalk, of the division of game and inland fisheries of the state Department of Conservation and Development.

"It is not the desire of the department to deprive people of the opportunity of catching a supply of herring, but we are making every effort possible to protect and restore the different species of game fish which are showing a steady decrease annually while the number of fishermen continue to increase every year."

"However," said Mr. Terry, "by using dip nets for herring, very few, if any, game fish will be caught, and we are glad to permit that type of fishing between January 1 and May 1, which is the duration of the open season for commercial fishing."

Tri-County Medical Society To Meet at Club March 10

A movie film, entitled "Pericious Anemias," will be presented by Dr. Frank Helvestine, Jr., of the Lederle Laboratories at the meeting of the Tri-County Medical Society scheduled to be held at the Plymouth Country Club here at 6:30 p. m., on Friday, March 10.

Dr. Emmett, president, and Dr. Paul Whitaker, of Kinston, councillor for the second district, will be special guests of the organization, which includes physicians in Martin, Washington and Tyrrell Counties.

In Raleigh This Week

Attorney Zeb Vance Norman is in Raleigh this week on professional business.