

TOWN TOPICS

A New Year's Dance, to be followed by a buffet supper, at the Country Club will climax social activities in Plymouth during the holidays.

Director L. W. Zeigler's Plymouth High School Band came in for a large measure of applause from the 3,000 people here for the prize drawing Wednesday afternoon.

Mendall H. Long writes in from Engelhard this week seeking a basketball game with the Plymouth All-Stars. Mr. Long represents a team composed of former Engelhard High School players, who are reported to have been very successful in their games thus far, and they want to play the local independents. It is expected a series will be arranged.

Fifty members of the Plymouth High School Glee Club went to Raleigh on a Norfolk Southern bus, provided free of charge by the bus company, last Thursday afternoon to broadcast a program of Christmas music over Station WPTF.

Chief of Police P. W. Brown had a busy time Wednesday afternoon, and was only partially successful in keeping the 3,000 people who attended the final drawing for prizes from throwing their worthless tickets on the wet pavement after the last winning number had been called.

Installation stock in the ninth series of the Plymouth Building & Loan Association, dated January 1, is now being offered for sale, and preparations are underway by the directors to wage an intensive campaign to add about 500 shares to the 1,200 active shares now in force.

Mr. and Mrs. Dwight McKnight, of Little Rock, Ark., were here this week visiting Mrs. McKnight's mother, Mrs. Sarah F. Nurney. Mr. Knight, formerly in business here, has been a salesman for a tobacco concern for about six years since leaving here.

Bobby Cahoon, son of Mrs. Minnie Cahoon, formerly of Plymouth, is captain of the tennis team at Wake Forest College. Though his mother lives in Chapel Hill, where the University of North Carolina is located, young Cahoon attends the Wake Forest institution. He was in Plymouth during the week-end.

High School Band Gave Concert Last Thursday

A concert of Christmas music was given in the Plymouth High School Auditorium last Thursday night, with about 100 parents of the young musicians and friends present.

Because of the fact that several members of the band were absent, Director L. W. Zeigler secured the help of Band Director J. E. Aiken and several of his musicians from Robersonville. An entertaining and impressive concert was given.

Good Christmas Business Reported by Merchants

Business was very good in Plymouth during the Christmas season, according to reports from several merchants who expressed their appreciation for the patronage of local people this week.

J. R. Manning, president of the merchants association, said that business in general was much better than it was at the same time last year; and W. F. Winslow, secretary of the organization, said his Christmas business was the best in years. Other merchants, including E. H. Liverman, H. A. Williford, J. W. Norman, Don G. Davis, and Pender's, made the same report.

County Taxes Payable at Par During January; Penalties Begin February 1

County taxes for 1939 are payable at par throughout the month of January, according to J. E. Davenport, tax collector, who explained this week that there are neither discounts nor penalties on payments made before February 1.

However, there will be a 1 per cent penalty added each month after January; starting with 1 per cent in February; 2 per cent in March; 3 per cent in April; and 4 per cent in May. After the latter month, there is no further increase in the penalties, but interest is charged on all unpaid accounts.

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New License Plates Must Be on All Cars Monday

Motorists who do not have their 1940 license plates will probably save themselves a lot of grief by leaving their cars at home until they do get them, starting next Monday, January 1, according to Corporal Tom B. Brown, of the State Highway Patrol, who has been informed by state authorities that there will be no extension of time for securing tags and ordered to begin arresting violators on the first day of the new year.

\$200 Awarded Five Winners Wednesday

Business and industry here will not generally observe Monday, New Year's Day, as a holiday, although the Branch Banking and Trust Company and the Plymouth and Creswell ABC stores will be closed, and the post office here will render a reduced schedule of service. Postmaster G. W. Hardison said the post office would receive and dispatch mail, but the windows will not be opened, and there will be no rural or city deliveries. Mail will be placed in boxes at the local office.

Tax Listing To Get Underway Monday Throughout County

Owners of real estate and personal property in Washington County must list their taxes for 1940 during the month of January, instead of April as in former years. E. F. Swain, supervisor, reminded this week in announcing that his organization had been perfected for the listing task, which gets underway next Monday. Although the date for listing has been moved up from April to January, there is but little difference in the set-up from former years, except that in making farm reports farmers list their 1939 plantings instead of estimating the acreage they will plant to various crops in 1940.

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The local patrolman advises those who may have trouble in getting their licenses, due to loss of title certificate, or change in title, to see him at once so they may ride after the first of the year. The officer will be busy Monday and Tuesday checking cars to see that they have their new plates. He will be glad to aid those who may have difficulty in getting their titles straightened out, he says, "if they have any other trouble—except lack of funds."

More than 3,000 persons from all over Washington County stood in a damp, cold drizzle here Wednesday afternoon to attend the final weekly drawing, when the grand prizes, totaling \$200, were given away to five persons. The drawing marked the conclusion of the better-business campaign which has been in progress for the last 11 weeks under the sponsorship of the Plymouth Merchants Association.

\$200 Awarded Five Winners Wednesday

Loomis E. Woodley, Westover Farmer, Winner of \$100 Grand Prize. Lizzie Bratts, 48, colored, charged with violation of the prohibition law, appealed from sentence of 30 days. Joe Manley, 34, colored, charged with violation of prohibition law; appealed from \$10 fine and costs or three months on the roads, judgment of recorder's court. Amelia Moore, 34, colored, charged with kidnapping a relative, was held on probable cause by the lower court. Spear Pittman Lynch, 52, colored; charged with reckless driving; appealed from recorder's court judgment of three months on roads or \$25 fine and costs.

New Year Greetings - 1940

As we enter upon another year, we pause to extend our great appreciation for the patronage given us in the past and to earnestly solicit your favors in the future, not overlooking the desire to extend to our readers, patrons, and other friends over this entire community the greetings of the day. To each and everyone we wish all the good things in life during this New Year. May happiness, peace, health and prosperity follow each of you during every minute of the coming year.

20 Criminal and 23 Civil Cases Are Set For Superior Court

Convenes January 8, With Judge Q. K. Nimocks Presiding

Twenty criminal and 23 civil cases are on the docket for trial at the two weeks mixed term of Washington County Superior Court convening here Monday, January 8, with Judge Q. K. Nimocks, of Fayetteville, presiding. Monday and Tuesday of the first week has been set aside for the trial of the 20 criminal cases on the docket, although more time may be required, as there are some cases scheduled which will probably call for lengthy examination of witnesses and extended speeches by the lawyers.

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One Man Killed, Several Injured, In Car Accidents; Woman Found Dead During Christmas Holidays

Violence and tragic death marred the Christmas observance in Washington County in several instances last week-end, with one person found dead in a forest, another killed by an automobile collision, and still another seriously injured in an affray. Annie Sherrod, colored woman about 50 years old, was found dead in a wooded area west of the baseball park by George Bagley Tuesday morning. She had been missing since Saturday night and her son, Leroy Sherrod, was in the searching party which found her and brought her home. A coroner's jury was empaneled following discovery of the body, but Coroner W. H. Peele said there were no marks of violence or evidence of foul play in connection with the death, and it is presumed she died either from exposure or from natural causes. Alec Watson was reported to have been the last person to see her alive.

Fire Insurance Rates for Dwellings in Town Reduced, Effective December 1

Fire insurance policy holders in the towns and suburbs of Washington County will save hundreds of dollars next year in insurance premiums with the announcement that the rates on dwellings and household furniture with dwelling to dwelling exposures have been reduced 50 per cent effective on December 1 in Plymouth and other towns. However, agents will make no reductions on dwellings that are exposed to mercantile risk or fire hazards. Along with this rate reduction in dwelling exposures is the elimination of exposure charges to brick dwellings. These reductions only apply to towns, cities and suburbs in North Carolina and are not effective in rural sections.

45 Christmas Baskets Delivered Last Week

Operating on a restricted basis this year, the cooperating agencies which sponsored the Christmas Cheer Drive distributed only 45 Christmas baskets last Friday and Saturday, but they went into homes in the Plymouth section to bring cheer to men, women, and children who otherwise would have had little, if anything, to remind them of the season. A total of \$126 in cash was raised for the work, and all of this amount was spent except 82 cents, which was left in the bank as a start on the fund for 1940, when the sponsors say they expect to organize earlier and make a more complete survey as well as more intensive drive to supply the needy with a measure of Christmas cheer.

Many Calls Turned Down This Year Due To Lack Of Funds \$126 in Cash Raised

In addition to the cash raised, about \$110 worth of merchandise was given and about 300 toys placed into the Christmas baskets by firemen, who collected them, repaired, repainted and make arrangements to have them delivered to the homes of the needy children. Those who assisted in raising the money and distributing the baskets were Mrs. W. V. Hays, president of the Parent-Teacher Association; P. W. Brown, Mrs. J. B. Willoughby, and Joe Nobles. It was estimated that the total value of the baskets, including merchandise, toys and cash collected, would be well in excess of \$250. This compares with \$200 in cash raised last Christmas and \$300 in cash collected Christmas before last. Fruit, clothing, toys, food and various other needed articles were

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Colored Farmer Is Killed in Collision On Highway No. 64

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Town Tax Lister Named by Board

For the convenience of property owners in Plymouth, who are required to list their holding for taxation during the month of January, Mrs. M. W. Spruill has been employed by the Town of Plymouth Council to sit daily during the month with the list taker for the county at the courthouse. This was done in order that town taxpayers may list both their county and town holdings at the same time. H. C. Spruill is the county list taker for this township. Town officials will make every effort to avoid errors and inaccuracies in the listing work this year, and all town property owners are urged to list as early as possible to avoid the usual last-minute rush.

Business Census of County To Be Taken During Next Month

D. W. Lupton, of Washington, district supervisor of the Census of the First Census or Congressional District, announced this week that his office had completed preparations for taking the business census in January. The Bureau of the Census only allotted 12 people to do this work in the entire district, and selections have been made as follows: Washington and Tyrrell Counties: Delbert Allen, Plymouth. Pitt County: Frank Brooks, Greenville; and Mrs. John Andrews, Ayden. Beaufort: Ruffin O'Neal, Washington; and R. H. Paul, Jr., Edward. Martin: Claude T. Smith, Robersonville. Pasquotank: J. J. Hughes, Elizabeth City. Hyde: W. W. Watson, Lake Land.

Town Officials Take Lead in Attempt To Secure Bus Terminal for Plymouth

Some time within the next few weeks, L. B. Wickersham and Chester Hawkins, officials of the Norfolk Southern Bus Corporation, of Norfolk, will be invited here to talk with officials of local civic organizations regarding a bus station for Plymouth. With seven buses daily coming into Plymouth from Williamston, Norfolk, Columbia, and Washington—and this number increased to seven daily on Saturdays and Sundays—many local people, including Mayor B. G. Campbell and J. W. Darden, secretary of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce, think the town should have a bus terminal. Zeb Vance Norman, as town attorney and leading civic worker, has been requested by the Town of Plymouth Council to write the bus company officials and ask them to come here for a conference to discuss the matter. Town officials point out that the present station, Arps Pharmacy, while convenient and comfortable, does not have sufficient parking space for the buses, which are forced to take on and discharge passengers at the town's busiest street intersection. Anyway, the local officials have announced that their 1940 goal is to have a bus station as beautiful, comfortable and convenient as the one recently erected by the company in Washington.