

Melodies by Greig and The Traveller's Overture, by Forest L. Bucktel, are two selections that have been sent to the Plymouth High School Band for presentation in Greenville at the district music contest to be held the latter part of March.

J. S. Collins, of Roper, while in town this week, was telling about the time the Albemarle Sound, as well as Roanoke River, was frozen over in January, 1893.

During the 22 years that J. J. Clemmons has been principal of the Roper colored school—now the J. J. Clemmons school—not a single high school boy or girl taught by him has ever been arrested on any charge in the county, which friends think is an excellent tribute to any teacher.

J. L. Rea, assistant director, in charge of the Blackland Test Farm at Wenona, plans to leave next week for Birmingham, Ala., where he will attend an annual meeting of agricultural leaders of 17 southern states.

J. Linwood Knowles, farmer in the Dardens section of Martin County, just across the line from this county, said he sold 691 bushels of sweet potatoes during the past season which he raised and cured at home as an experiment in developing a new cash crop.

J. Roy Hampton, a member of the State Department of Conservation and Development, has received an invitation to be present at the annual North Carolina Gridiron Dinner, to be held at the Sir Walter Hotel in Raleigh Sunday.

Forty years in the ministry with its heavy demands has not discouraged Dr. G. A. Martin, Baptist minister of Creswell, who continues to fill his appointments, preaching four times each week. Despite the unusually severe weather of the last few weeks, Mr. Martin said he had not missed a single appointment so far on that account.

J. T. McAllister, a former sheriff of Washington County, was in town this week seeking support for the movement to name the Roper white school in honor of Miss A. C. (Gussie) Carstarphen, who has given 60 years of service to education in this county.

Housing Agency Is Barred from Aiding In Local Situation

State Law Precludes Projects in Towns of Less Than 5000

Hope for a Federal-sponsored low-rent housing program in Plymouth fostered by W. H. Clark went glimmering last week with receipt of a letter from John P. Broome, director of region four of the United States Housing Authority, who wrote that state law at present precluded the establishment of a housing agency in any town in North Carolina with less than 5,000 inhabitants.

The USHA was created for the purpose of giving financial assistance to public housing agencies and aid them in alleviating unsafe and insanitary housing conditions, as well as to remedy the shortage of decent, safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations for families of low income.

He said further, "we assure you that the conditions that you have outlined in your letter merit the most careful consideration, and it is with sincere regret that we tell you that the North Carolina law has precluded your city from setting up a local housing authority."

It was also pointed out that "at the present the United States Housing Authority has no more funds available for more projects... however, Congress will confer on this matter again this term... it would seem desirable for localities interested in the housing program to go ahead with their plans and other preparations, because the program of the USHA is a permanent one, and when the North Carolina legislature acts such a locality would be in the best position to go ahead with their plans if the expansion of the Federal program is authorized."

Still Taking Donations To Infantile Paralysis Fund

Postmaster George W. Hardison, chairman of the county campaign to raise funds for the control of infantile paralysis, said today that contributors might still send in their donations until the last of the week, although Wednesday night was originally designated the closing date of the drive.

Complete reports from other parts of the county had not reached Mr. Hardison this morning, and he said he had no idea how much had been raised in the campaign, although he hoped to be in position to give the totals next week.

No Extension of Time for Delinquent Tax Listers; Books Closed Wednesday

The records were put away and services of list takers discontinued Wednesday night, county officials deciding there would be no extension of time for listing property for 1940. Tax Supervisor E. F. Swain said yesterday, "Those who failed to list are now faced with the possibility of being penalized by imposition of double taxes, the supervisor said, although it is possible for delinquents to have their property put on the books if they are willing to pay the list takers for their work."

Mr. Swain said that 90 per cent of the property holders in Skinnersville and Seppersonong Townships had listed, while in Lees Mills and Plymouth Townships the percentage was estimated at 85.

The tax supervisor plans to write state officials at Raleigh for a complete list of automobile owners in this county. The list will be checked with the tax books and those who have not listed their cars will possibly be assessed with double taxes for their delinquency, it was stated.

A survey will also be made of all other property in the county, and those who failed to list will be put on the books anyway, subject to the penalties provided by law.

Want Used Radio For County Home

Anyone who has a used radio that will play and which they do not use is urged to donate it to the inmates of the Washington County home. The aged and infirm folks there have been without a radio of any kind since their old one wore completely out a year or so ago, and the cost of repairing it is prohibitive—for them. It is said their grateful appreciation for the hours of enjoyment they get from a radio will well repay anyone who wishes to contribute one.

Three Men Escape When Yacht Burns In Alligator River

Rescued by Icebound Tug; Later Walk Over 3 Miles Of Ice To Shore

A tale of three men escaping from a burning boat, which was almost icebound at the mouth of Alligator River between lights numbers six and seven, was brought to Plymouth this week by K. A. Kroupsch, one of the men.

Mr. Kroupsch said that he started on the 46-foot double-cabin yacht Sunset from Hampton, Va., to Miami, Fla., arriving at the mouth of Alligator River at 3 o'clock Sunday. The engine had been giving trouble since about noon and Mr. Kroupsch said that while working on the engine the boat caught fire. The crew was picked up by the tug Buddy, under the command of Captain Jackson, whose tug and dredge was held by the ice.

After remaining icebound on the tug from Sunday until Tuesday, Mr. Kroupsch told L. S. Thompson, who helped him find a room and loaned him clothing for the trip to his Florida home, that he walked three miles over the ice-covered river to Fort Landing, where he caught a ride part of the way to Columbia. The crew of the yacht was brought from Columbia to Plymouth by one of the Cahoon boys.

The firm for which Mr. Kroupsch works buys small boats, remodeling and repairing them for resale. He said the company had lost only two out of 500 boats they have handled in the last few years.

Religious Census To Be Taken Sunday

About 50 canvassers are expected to gather at the Baptist church here Sunday afternoon to take part in the religious census to be made by workers from the Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal and Christian churches.

Twelve workers will be appointed from each of the four churches, and just before they start to visit every home in town they will gather at the Baptist church at 1:30 to get last-minute instructions.

P. Bruce Bateman Plans To Return To Plymouth

P. Bruce Bateman, representative of the Sinclair Refining Company, who recently moved to Fayetteville with his family, said while on a visit here this week that his territory had been rearranged and that he planned to return here about the first of April to take up residence again.

Mr. Bateman requested his company to rearrange the territory so that he could return here to live, and this was done.

Bridges Over Sound Said Threatened by Ice Floes This Week

Huge Cakes of Ice Said To Be Grinding Against Supports

Ice floes threatened serious damage to two bridges over Albemarle Sound this week, when the rising temperature thawed the film of ice connecting huge ice cakes, which are grinding against the support. The new sound vehicular bridge and the Norfolk Southern railroad bridge are the structures threatened.

The metallic rhythmic sound of the ice sheets striking against the supports of the bridge could be heard for some distance, although there has been no serious damage so far. It is believed there is little danger unless there are strong winds to create swift currents which might cause a jam around the structures.

Mrs. Roy C. Cooper Attacked at Home Here Last Saturday

James Moore, Colored, Held For July Superior Court After Hearing

Within less than an hour after a negro attacked and attempted to criminally assault Mrs. Roy C. Cooper in the kitchen of her home on Washington Street Saturday evening at 6:15, Sheriff J. K. Reid had arrested James Moore, 21, who was identified by Mrs. Cooper as the man who attacked her.

Sheriff Reid first brought another negro man, whose name was not disclosed to Mrs. Cooper, before her, but she said he was not the one; but when the sheriff returned with Moore, Mrs. Cooper identified him immediately as her assailant.

At a preliminary hearing in recorder's court Tuesday morning, Mrs. Cooper again positively identified Moore as the man who attacked her, and he was ordered held in jail pending posting of a \$5,000 bond. The defendant was represented at the hearing by Attorney P. H. Bell, his line of questioning indicating that the defense will be based on "mistaken identity" when the case is tried at the July term of superior court.

Mrs. Cooper said she was in the kitchen at her home Saturday when she heard the door open behind her. When she turned, the attacker told her to "be quiet." She was so frightened at first she did not make an outcry. The negro, she said, choked her, slapped her in the face and hit her in the stomach with his fist. He also grabbed at her clothing, tearing an apron she was wearing. When she recovered enough to scream her father, John West, and her husband ran to her aid. The negro fled, and she said she did not see him again until the sheriff brought Moore to her for identification.

Mrs. Cooper also testified on Tuesday that the negro had been to the house before, asking if her husband was home. It was said Moore lives on the street at the rear of the Cooper home and passed there quite frequently.

Officers Unable to Confirm Report of Recent Robbery

Officers here said this morning that they did not have any information about a report circulating in Plymouth that the home of Clyde Chesson, near Phelps' store, on Highway 64 between here and Roper, had been entered by colored men one day this week. Mr. Chesson could not be reached for verification of the report.

Member City of Flint Crew, Visiting Here, Talks of Adventurous Voyage

Says Seamen on Ship Shown More Consideration by Germans Than They Were by Their Own Captain; Also Says He Never Heard of Any Plot for Recapturing Ship From Nazi Prize Crew

Herman D. Haddock, of Norfolk, a member of the crew of the City of Flint, United States freighter which was captured by the German pocket battleship Deutschland last October and kept in the headlines for more than a week while in the hands of a German prize crew, arrived in Plymouth this week to visit his sister, Mrs. L. M. Manning, and Mr. Manning.

The City of Flint finally docked in Baltimore last week after one of the war's strangest adventures, and Mr. Haddock, a seaman, was glad to get his release from the much-publicized vessel, although he emphasized the consideration shown members of the American crew by the Germans as in marked contrast to the mistreatment he charges against the Flint's skipper, Captain Joseph A. Gainer, during the course of the 113-day voyage. Haddock joined the City of Flint after it had returned several hundred survivors of the British liner Athenia to America the latter part of September and sailed from New York on October 3rd on its epochal voyage during which it was captured by the German raider, sailed to Murmansk, Russia, under the direction of the Nazi prize crew; restored to its own crew when Norway interned the Germans; and delayed by a collision with a British ship in a Norwegian harbor.

Incidentally, Haddock discounted tales told by other members of the crew, alleging that a plot had been hatched to recapture the ship from the German crew. He said that he knew of no such plot, although such a course was discussed briefly by members of the crew at mess on one occasion. "The only thing we could do was to sail the ship as the Germans ordered," Haddock said, "there wasn't a chance that we could regain control while they were aboard."

Zeb Vance Norman Appointed To Head Finnish Relief Campaign in County

people are making a determined stand against Russian barbarism and infidelity for an existence. They have been highly successful, but they need help; and of all the international crises raging in the world today, the cause of Finland seems to be the most meritorious.

"The people of this community have always been generous, particularly in emergencies, and they are requested to respond now to this distressing call," Mr. Norman concluded. Contributions may be forwarded to The Roanoke Beacon or to Z. V. Norman, county chairman. Do not wait for a committee to call on you but make your contributions voluntarily. The Finns need them now.

Zeb Vance Norman has been appointed Chairman of the Finnish Relief Fund for Washington County by Ex-Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus, State Director. He is now undertaking to organize the county in units for the solicitation of funds for Finnish relief, and the public is requested to make contributions as generously as possible. These funds are not for munitions but are for the relief of women, children and the wounded.

"We believe that the greatest admiration of all the people in the world today is poured out to the Finns," Mr. Norman said today. "The savage hand of Russia is striking at the heart of Finland to destroy its liberty and independence, but these God-fearing, liberty-loving, peaceful

Four-Car Exhibit for Potato Producers at Columbia Feb. 15th

Machinery, Methods, and Approved Practices To Be Demonstrated

The Norfolk Southern Railroad Company will have a four-car potato growers' exhibit at Columbia Thursday, February 15, from 10 until 5 o'clock, and it will be well worth the time of potato growers to visit the showing, according to County Agent W. V. Hays.

The State College Extension Service is cooperating with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, the Federal Department of Agriculture, and the Norfolk Southern Railroad Company in conducting this exhibit for early potato producers along the line of the railroad in North Carolina.

The exhibit will include a passenger coach, where a sound movie will be shown illustrating the approved practices of potato growing, grading, etc. A flat freight car will contain grading machinery for a demonstration on improved practices of handling and loading potatoes.

A box housing an exhibit of new potatoes, rotation practices, disease specimens, harvesting equipment, grading equipment, shipping containers, washing and drying equipment, is also included with the train. Then there is a refrigerator car for detailed explanation of dry ventilation, pre-cooling, initial icing and approved methods of shipment.

Mr. Hays said this was a well-planned exhibit, and it will be accompanied by a staff of specialists on potato disease control and marketing. The agent believes all who are

Oldest Forecaster Is Due Tomorrow

Tomorrow is the traditional "Groundhog Day," and those who base their predictions as to the length and severity of the winter on the alleged activities of this underground denizen on February 2nd are awaiting the event with bated breath—not to say "baited" breath.

According to the old-line prognosticators, if the groundhog sees his shadow when he emerges at 12 noon on February 2, he immediately returns to his underground home, and there will be six more weeks of severe weather. On the other hand, if he fails to see his shadow, he remains out of doors because the winter is done.

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Must Demonstrate Ability in Driving

Inspector McCloud, of the State Highway Patrol Safety Division, said today that all applicants for drivers' licenses in the future must have an automobile available so that they may be given an actual driving test of their ability.

The inspector also said that boys and girls between 16 and 18 years of age must bring their parents with them before they can obtain a driving license.

Inspector McCloud is in Plymouth every Thursday morning, from 9 to 11:30 o'clock.

Suggests Naming Roper School for Miss Carstarphen

Recommendation Made by J. H. Gaylord, Sr., Favored by Others

A movement has been started in the Lees Mills section to name the Roper white school after Miss A. C. (Gussie) Carstarphen, who for almost 60 years has been a teacher in this county, most of the time at that school.

The suggestion was advocated by J. H. Gaylord, Sr., and among those who favor the idea are J. T. McAllister, Mrs. John W. Chesson Will Blount and many others who will fall in line with the movement as they become better acquainted with it.

The plan, as outlined by Mr. Gaylord, would include this event among the commencement exercises, a special night being designated for the formal changing of the name, with school officials to speak in honor of Miss Carstarphen.

It was pointed out by Mr. Gaylord that that would be one of the best ways to commemorate the endeavors and unselfish service of "Miss Gussie," who has spent her life in educating the youth of several generations, drawing at times very small pay.

Financially, her services have not passed entirely unnoticed, as she has been retired on a salary of \$50 per month, which shows the esteem in which she is held by her former pupils and citizens.

Mr. Gaylord said that my naming the school in her honor her name and activities would be perpetuated in a visible way for years to come as succeeding generations attend the school named after the woman who has served it so well.

Lions Planning Big Meeting Next Week

District Governor Neil Hester, of Raleigh, will be the principal speaker at the meeting celebrating the third anniversary of the local Lions Club and ladies' night, to be held at the Plymouth Country Club Thursday night of next week.

Lions from Washington, Williamston, Edenton, Hertford, and other places have been invited to attend with their wives, according to President Z. V. Norman.

An excellent program is being arranged for the event by a committee, and Mr. Norman urges a large attendance.

Parent-Teacher Meeting Here Next Wednesday

The February meeting of the Plymouth Parent-Teacher Association will be held at the high school building next Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, it was announced today by Mrs. W. V. Hays, president, who urges a large attendance.

Walter H. Paramore, member of the county board of education, will be the speaker for the occasion, and there will be other events on the program, Mrs. Hays said. Several matters of importance are to be discussed, and the president is particularly anxious for a good attendance.

Tenant House Near Here Destroyed by Fire Sunday

A tenant house on the Springwood Dairy farm, near here, was completely destroyed by fire shortly after midnight Sunday, the loss being estimated at about \$300.

A colored family lived in the house, but none of them was at home when the fire occurred, and the origin of the blaze is undetermined.

James Henry Smith, Well Known Citizen, Dies At Home Here

Prominent in Lumber Business of Section for Number of Years

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon in historic old Grace Episcopal Church for James Henry Smith, 75, well known local citizen who died at his home here Sunday at 11:30 a. m., after an illness lasting for about six weeks. Mr. Smith was a former mayor of Plymouth and served on the town council for several terms some years ago.

The Rev. Sidney E. Matthews, of Washington, rector of the church, officiated. Music was provided by a combined choral group from the Methodist and Episcopal churches. Interment took place in the Grace Episcopal Church cemetery.

A prominent lumber man in Washington County for years, Mr. Smith was well known in this section. He was the son of the late John Henry Smith and Laura Meredith Davenport, of this county. His wife, the late Mrs. Caroline Hilliard Smith, died about three and a half years ago.

For 30 years Mr. Smith had been a member of Grace Episcopal Church. Mr. Smith came from one of the leading families of the section, his father having served in the State Legislature during the Civil War.

He is survived by four daughters, Mrs. Isolind Ward, Mrs. Corinne Austin, Mrs. Mary S. Cahoon, register of deeds of this county, all of Plymouth; and Carrie Garrett Smith, of Tallahassee, Fla.; and one son, James H. Smith, of Goldsboro.

Active pall-bearers were W. R. White, J. K. Reid, J. W. Darden, E. S. Blount, Frank Bratten, George W. Harrison, R. A. Willford, A. R. Latham and Clyde Hassell.

Negro Who Attacked Local White Woman Held for July Court

Preliminary Hearing Given James Freeman in County Court Here Tuesday

A bedraggled undernourished colored youth sat in the crowded courtroom here Tuesday morning, apparently unconscious of the seriousness of the crime with which he was charged, as the court proceeded with a hearing for him on charges of attempted rape. The boy, whose name was given as James Freeman—although his mother said he was the son of Nathan Moore, also called Joe Moore—sat with his head drooped while Mrs. Pauline Bateman, 60, accused him of attacking her in a bedroom at her home last Tuesday afternoon.

The negro's mother told the court the youth would be 17 years old in July, and Recorder John W. Darden ordered him held for the July term of superior court, with bond set at \$5,000. Unable to raise the bond, Sheriff J. K. Reid returned the boy to his cell in the jail here.

Born out of wedlock, and his father in New York, the boy quit school in the third grade. His mother said he was mentally deficient, or as she put it, "didn't have all that he should." She also said that he had been in court at least twice before on larceny charges, the cases being handled by C. V. W. Ausbon, judge of the juvenile court.

The assault on Mrs. Bateman occurred shortly after noon last Tuesday when she went into the room of a boarder to make the bed. The negro had secreted himself there and when he knocked Mrs. Bateman down her screams attracted her son, Samuel Bray, who caught his mother's attacker and held him for officers.

Merchants Here To Meet Friday Night

There will be a special meeting of the Plymouth Merchants' Association in the council chamber of the municipal building here Friday evening at 8:15, it was announced today by the newly elected president, W. F. Winslow.

Mr. Winslow urges a large attendance in view of the fact that several matters of importance will be discussed, including plans for the promotion of better business here.

Mr. Winslow explained that the time was set for 8:15 in order that those who keep their stores open until 7 o'clock on Fridays, under the recent arrangement, may have time to go home for supper before the meeting.

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