

Prize winners in the recent postcard contest conducted at the Plymouth school were Vivian Sitterton, ninth grade; Frances Stell Spruill, seventh and Matt White Norman, fourth. Prizes will be presented to the children at an early date. The Thursday Afternoon Literary Club sponsored the contest.

Bugs Barringer, photographer and news editor of the Rocky Mount Evening Telegram, spent Wednesday here with bear hunters and also took snapshots of several local personages and in general had a good time.

J. L. Horne, Jr., of Rocky Mount, a member of the State Board of Conservation and Development, ate lunch here Tuesday of this week with W. R. Hampton, also a board member, and accompanied Mr. Hampton to Columbia, where Mr. Hampton conducted a hearing for fishermen of this section.

A. L. Alexander, insurance man of Plymouth has held third place in the amount of policies written and business done with his company since September. This third place includes the business done by the agents in the nation as a whole.

The date for public schools of Washington County to recess for the Christmas holidays was fixed at Friday, December 20, by the board of education at its regular meeting Monday. The schools will reopen on Wednesday, January 1, giving the school children and teachers a vacation of 10 days.

Clients of the Farm Security Administration have made 70 mattresses from government surplus commodities at the workroom here. It is expected that 100 will be made. Miss Naomi Weede has been supervising the mattress-making work for Miss Annie L. Spoon, home economist, who has been busy with other duties.

With the Christmas shopping season now underway, everyone is urged to take advantage of the opportunities offered right here in Plymouth by local merchants before going elsewhere to make gift purchases.

Lyman Roberts, of Washington, who, with his father, P. H. Roberts, Sr., is helping to arrange contracts with farmers for production of cucumbers for C. C. Lang & Son, Inc., of Baltimore, said while here today that over 100 acres had been contracted for to date.

Jury List Drawn by Board for Service at Next Term of Court

Two Weeks' Session Begins January 6, With Judge Harris Presiding

The Washington County Commissioners, in session here Monday, chose the following jurors for service during the criminal and civil term of superior court, which will be held here for two weeks beginning Monday, January 6, with Judge W. C. Harris, of Raleigh, presiding.

Those selected for jury service follow:

First Week
Plymouth: R. W. Ayers, J. S. Swain, J. R. Campbell, W. C. Myers, W. H. Dixon, J. R. Harris, H. E. Beam, C. M. Beasley, W. T. Stillman, L. H. Lucas, Z. K. Taylor, and Henry Walker.

Lees Mills: E. S. Chesson, Raymond Davenport, F. C. Tarkenton, L. S. Swain, W. H. Oliver, Norman G. Chesson, W. E. Allen, C. S. Heynen, H. D. Davenport.

Skinner'sville: S. H. Holton, W. D. Phelps, Delbert Patrick, J. C. Swain, W. H. Oliver, Norman G. Chesson, W. E. Allen, C. S. Heynen, H. D. Davenport.

Second Week
Plymouth: G. R. Hardison, W. R. Price, Jr., L. C. Waters, Robert L. Bateman, Jack B. Latham, C. H. Robertson, H. D. McNair, R. S. Jackson, W. H. Paramore, W. L. Garrison, Ransome Respass.

Lees Mills: W. J. Vaughan, Warren Furlough, G. D. Riddick, T. L. Wynne, H. W. Tarkenton.

Skinner'sville: C. L. Everett, M. F. Davenport and W. A. Spruill.

Scuppernon: Alexander H. Davenport, Robert A. McGowan, H. W. Norman, W. T. Phelps, and H. D. Craddock.

Prisoner Escapes From Creswell Camp Sunday

Officers are still searching for Mace Roe Carter, 40, county negro, who escaped from the Creswell prison camp about 7 p. m. Sunday. He had served about half of a six-month sentence in October for assaulting Mary Ransom. Carter was a grade A prisoner and was working on the wood pile at the time of his escape. Superintendent H. L. Harris, of the prison camp, gives this description of the fugitive: Dark brown, weight 185 pounds, six feet tall, scars on head and wrist.

Advertisers will find Beacon and News Columns a latchkey to 1,500 Washington County homes.

VOLUME LI—NUMBER 49

Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Thursday, December 5, 1940

ESTABLISHED 1889

Santa Claus To Turn Street Lights on Tomorrow Night

The Christmas season will be officially opened in Plymouth tomorrow (Friday) night, at 7:30 o'clock, by the arrival of a gift-laden Santa Claus on a special passenger bus down town in front of the community hall. Upon his arrival, the first thing Santa Claus is scheduled to do is to switch on the hundreds of red, blue, green yellow and orange Christmas lights, which Chief of Police P. W. Brown and his crew of workmen have erected to light Water and Washington Streets.

Immediately afterwards Santa Claus will proceed to distribute small gifts and souvenirs that members of the Plymouth Merchants Association will provide to make happy the little folks who are expected to gather around the jolly old man on his arrival. The public is cordially invited and urged to be present, and the children will be especially welcomed, even though Santa Claus may be too busy to ask each of them what they most desire him to bring on December 25th.

Property in County To Be Revalued Next Year

Clothing Needed By School Pupils

An appeal for donations of toys for needy school children was issued this week by the local parent-teacher association, an official explaining that it was thought many absences during cold weather could be attributed to the fact that some of the children do not have sufficient clothing to keep warm. Sweaters, dresses, coats, underwear, knickers, stockings and other warm clothing may be left at the office of Principal R. B. Trotman, according to Mrs. J. K. Reid, president of the association, who is urging those more fortunate to contribute to the needs of poor children. Mrs. Reid also expressed the hope that those who have discarded toys would take them to local firemen, who are reworking and will distribute them to needy children Christmas.

Assessors and List Takers Appointed By Board Monday

Will Begin Work January 1; Three Men Named in Each Township

Machinery for listing real and personal property in Washington County during the month of January was set up by the County Commissioners and Tax Supervisor Monday, and it was announced that the list takers would also handle the quadrennial revaluation, which takes place next year.

Commissioner E. F. Swain will again serve as county tax supervisor, with the following list takers and revaluation board for the several county townships:

Plymouth: L. S. Thompson, James W. Norman and A. S. Allen.
Lees Mills: Hubert Chesson, E. M. Chesson and R. W. Lewis.

Scuppernon: Paul B. Belanga, B. A. Williams and John A. Combs.
Skinner'sville: W. W. White, Hubert Davenport, and A. M. Chesson.

The above men will list the property and then turn their attention to the quadrennial revaluation of all real property, as prescribed by law. Two years ago there was a special revaluation, and all the listings were revised and brought up to date at that time.

Heretofore there has been a tax lister appointed for each township without any assistants, but this year three men were named for each of the subdivisions to take care of listing and revaluing property.

As the tax listing is usually done in January, under the law enacted by the last legislature, it is the intention of the tax listers and assessors to make an effort to complete their duties in January if possible.

First Man Called for Military Service To Go Next Wednesday

Brief Program Planned To Honor Men Called for Army Training

Randolph Minton, Roper white man, who will be the first man from Washington County to be inducted into Army service under the selective service act, will get a royal send-off by local folks next Wednesday, December 11, when he leaves for Fort Bragg. Mr. Minton was the first white man to volunteer for the year's military training, and as such received the first call when this county was assigned its quota recently. Edlow Spruill, colored, of Plymouth, is scheduled to leave two days later, on December 13, and will be the first colored man called from this county. He will also be present to take part in the program when Mr. Minton leaves Wednesday.

At the exercises next Wednesday, Zeb Vance Norman will make a brief speech and the Plymouth High School Band will play. A number of people are also expected to be on hand for the ceremonies, which will begin about 9:45, the bus being scheduled to leave at 10:10 a. m.

E. S. Blount, chairman of the Washington County Selective Service Board, will preside over the festivities, and it is believed that a large number will be on hand to give the young men a rousing send-off as they leave to report for military service.

Joseph Daley's Birthday Is Observed by Local Bar

Prior to the work on the docket in recorder's court Tuesday morning, members of the Washington County Bar Association took part in a brief program commemorating the one-hundred anniversary of the birth of Joseph Francis Daley in Washington County.

Mr. Daley moved from here to New York, where he gained considerable fame as an able lawyer and jurist, and he eventually became chief justice of the New York Supreme Court.

Attorney W. L. Whitley read a brief sketch of his life, as prepared by Recorder John W. Darden, who presided over the court, and short talks were made by Z. V. Norman, A. R. Dupree, S. A. Ward, and P. H. Bell.

Urge Cooperation to Avoid Mail Delays

As the holiday mail rush is in the offing, the postmasters in Washington County are urging patrons to observe several postal instructions which will save both patrons and postal employees much extra work.

Those joining in the request to the patrons to cooperate in the quick service and rapid dispatch of mail include George W. Hardison, Plymouth, Mrs. Perla S. Bery, Roper; E. S. Woodley, Creswell and Miss Jamie Riddick, Mackeys.

The post office executives urge the following: "Buy your stamps early, stamp your greetings, save time for yourself and the carriers; buy your stamps in advance, your carrier will be glad to serve you."

They also point out that sealed cards are 3 cents; unsealed cards with no writing, 1½ cents; post cards, 1 cent.

Group From This Section Attends Livestock Show

A group of cattlemen from Washington and Martin Counties will return the latter part of this week from Chicago, where they have been attending the International Livestock Exposition. A half million persons annually visit this show, the largest of its kind held in the nation.

Those in the party from this section were W. V. Hays, county agent; J. L. Rea, assistant director in charge of the Blackland Experiment Station at Wenona; T. B. Brandon, Martin County agent; and Dr. John D. Biggs, of Williamston.

Navy Officials Here Tuesday to Inspect Proposed Base Site

Prospectus Being Prepared Outlining Advantages of Location Near Here

A prospectus is being prepared today by John W. Darden, W. R. Hampton and W. M. Darden, for submission by Saturday to the Navy Department, outlining the favorable points of Dr. L. W. White's farm about a half mile east of Plymouth as a site for the non-rigid air base to be established somewhere in the north-eastern section of the state.

The local group was assembling information requested by the group of Navy officers who visited the location near here Tuesday. The officers included Captain C. E. Rosendahl, Lieut.-Com. D. N. Logan, and Lieut. A. I. Flaherty. The officers are visiting a number of suggested sites in the section, and were accompanied here Tuesday by Congressman Herbert C. Bonner.

The officers would make no commitments regarding the suitability of the various sites they had seen near Elizabeth City, Columbia and other towns on their itinerary.

The Navy officials said they wanted a site containing about 640 acres, or approximately one mile square, with good subsoil, open air approaches, near a town, and free from traffic. The personnel of such a base dwindle rapidly from the 16,000 first reported last week, one of the officers stating that about 300 men would be required to operate the base. It was explained that they wanted a location near a town where living facilities were considered good.

Those who are working up the prospectus seem to think they have a favorable site to offer, as the Dr. White farm is less than half a mile from the A. C. L. railroad tracks; can be reached by vehicular traffic from either the Mackeys road or Highway 64; is near the water and recreational facilities.

The Navy officials were also told about Albemarle Beach and the Station farm as possible sites.

Two-Year-Old Boy Dies at Home Here

Funeral services were held at the home on Jefferson Street last Thursday for Stewart McGowan Hardison, two-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Garland Hardison, who died Wednesday at the home of his parents. The funeral was held at the Baptist church, in charge of the services.

This marked the second death in the family from pneumonia in a week's time, another child, Patricia Elaine, 6 months old, having died the preceding Wednesday. The mother, who has been sick for some time, was said to be able to be about the home today.

Surviving, in addition to the parents, are a sister, Sandra Ann Hardison, and grandmother, Mrs. Georgia Allen, both of Plymouth.

Funeral services were held at the home of Mrs. Hardison on Wednesday; both children were born on a Wednesday, and both died on a Wednesday, one week apart.

Boy Killed Playing With Calf Near Here

Little Robert Harmon Davis, 9-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Davis, of near Dardens, was killed last Saturday morning while playing with a calf on the Davis farm. The youngster roped the calf and put the other end of the rope around his own neck, using a slip knot. It is presumed the animal snatched him down, tightening the rope about the boy's neck so that he could not loosen it.

Possibly choked to death, his neck broken and his face scarred and bruised either from being dragged across the rough ground and through a wood ed area for a short distance, the youth's body was found by a sister after he had been missing from the yard about an hour.

Funeral services were held at the home Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock by the Rev. P. B. Nickens, pastor of the local Baptist church and interment was in a new cemetery on the home farm. His fourth-grade classmates served as flower bearers.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers and four sisters.

County Officials Start New Term Monday; Few Changes

NAMED COUNTY ATTORNEY AND SOLICITOR



W. R. Gaylor and S. A. Ward, Jr., Get Posts as Attorneys

Number Matters Considered By Board After Taking Oaths of Office

There were a few changes made in the personnel of the county government here Monday, after the two re-elected commissioners and one new commissioner took the oath of office, W. Ronald Gaylor being appointed county attorney and S. A. Ward, Jr., being named prosecuting attorney of the county recorder's court.

E. F. Swain entered upon his third two-year term as a county commissioner from district No. 3, J. C. Knowles began his second term as commissioner from district No. 2; and E. G. Arps, former treasurer and chairman of the ABC Board, started his first elective term as commissioner from district No. 1. Mr. Arps, however, has already served five months, completing the unexpired term of J. R. Campbell, who was named to succeed Mr. Arps as ABC board chairman last July.

After taking the oath of office and perfecting their own organization by electing Mr. Arps chairman, the commissioners then appointed W. R. Gaylor as county attorney at a salary of \$25 per month, plus \$2.50 per certificate for doing the legal work in connection with the sale of tax certificates. S. A. Ward, Jr., was named prosecuting attorney of the recorder's court at a salary of \$50 per month.

J. E. Davenport was continued in office as tax collector at a salary of \$150 monthly; and E. J. Spruill was again named county auditor for a two-year period, also at a salary of \$150 per month.

Registrars of vital statistics for the various townships were appointed as follows: Plymouth, M. W. Spruill; Scuppernon, J. A. Combs; Lees Mills, J. J. Hassell; and Skinner'sville, M. F. Davenport.

Commissioner Ed F. Swain's re-named county tax supervisor and list takers and assessors, named for the quadrennial revaluation in January.

A. J. Riddle offered the commissioners \$350 for land in Lees Mills Township owned by the Southern Roller Stave and Hardwood Company, Hiram Collins, Frank Howcott and Mike Downing. The offer was taken under consideration.

A resolution was passed exempting Harry Liniger, World War Veteran, from payment of the schedule "B" license tax.

The commissioners took under consideration a bid from H. D. Davenport for McCrae Quarter, several lots fronting on highway 64.

40,000 Bags Peanuts Now In Storage Here

Believe All Storage Space Available To Be Needed for Crop

Estimated 55,000 Bags Will Be Stored in County Warehouses

Close to 40,000 bags of peanuts have been stored in the government warehouses here, operated by W. H. Clark and J. E. Davenport under the diversion plan sponsored by the Peanut Growers Cooperative in an effort to bolster lagging prices.

Long lines of trucks continued to await their turns to unload at the warehouses here today as the warehouse operators completed plans to utilize every available storage place in Plymouth and Creswell to take care of an estimated 55,000 bags expected to be deposited with the government warehouse operators.

There were approximately 6,400 acres of peanuts planted in the county this year. Peanut growers said that there would be an average of about 10 bags to the acre produced this year, which will give a total of about 64,000 bags for the county. It is expected that all except about 9,000 or 10,000 bags will be stored with the government agents here.

Messrs. Davenport and Clark have about five warehouses available, three in Plymouth and two in Creswell. So far it has not been necessary to store any peanuts in Creswell, but it is expected that by the end of the week all available space here will be utilized and then the goobers would be directed to Creswell.

Meantime, it is understood the price offered by manufacturers has dropped lower than the 3.25 cents per pound assured by the diversion program. Most of the buyers for the different firms have left the market and are making no attempt to purchase the peanuts from farmers.

Peanuts stored by the government under this plan are diverted from the usual channels of trade, being made into oil to keep them off the regular market.

Roper Faculty To Present All-Star Revue Tomorrow

The Roper High School faculty will present an all-star faculty revue at the high school auditorium there Friday night at 8 o'clock, featuring the "Prince of Broadway," "Madam Lazonga," "Alice Blue Gown," and the "Hill Billy Family in the City."

In the second act a scene will be presented of a barn dance at Pea Ridge. The third act will be of a patriotic nature. Between the acts, the Roper band, third grade rhythm band and a saxophone quintet from Plymouth school will provide music.

Miss Jo Walker will be the accompanist and Misses Eleanor Sugg and Ethel Griffiths are the directors. Thomas White is the stage manager.

Firemen Want More Toys for Needy Children

Although second-hand toys have been brought to fire department headquarters here almost fast enough to keep the firemen busy repairing and repainting them for the past week or so, it is feared that not enough articles will be available for actual needs when time for distribution comes, according to Assistant Fire Chief

J. B. Willoughby, who urges local people to send or bring the old toys in immediately, as the firemen have only their spare time to devote to repairing them. It was stated that the fire department members will have very little time to call for the old toys this year, since they must spend every spare moment they can get

in repairing and painting them, and donors are asked by the assistant chief to send or bring the toys in as an aid to the firemen. Promptness is urged if the needs of the community's unfortunate children are to be taken care of this Christmas, since many of the volunteer firemen have extra work during the holiday season and have only their

time off to devote to work on the old toys. For the past three years, scores of little tots were made glad by the thoughtfulness of the firemen and the generosity of local people, and it is sincerely hoped that no worthy child will be forgotten this year. Many names have been added to the list in recent years, as parents who provided

for them in years before are unable to do so now. The assistant chief urges every one to do his part to make this a merry Christmas for all the children of the community. To bring or send discarded toys to the firemen requires but little sacrifice or effort on the part of anyone, and the need is great.

Gets Road Term for Robbery of Roper School Lunch Room

Confession Obtained by Local and State Officers; Given 1 Year

Charlie Frank Swain, 21, white, of Roper, was sent to the roads for one year in recorder's court Tuesday, when he was found guilty of entering the Roper school lunchroom at night, eating some of the food, and stealing an electric iron. Swain was convicted upon his own voluntary confession after Corporal T. B. Brown of the State Highway Patrol, Roper Police Chief L. C. Snell, and James Powell, a representative of the State Bureau of Identification and Investigation, had linked him with the crime.

While he was in the building, Swain tore the top from a cardboard box and wrote a note to the lunchroom operators, expressing his appreciation for the food he had eaten, including peaches, pineapple and crackers. He told officers that he took the iron and threw it into Lewis Canal.

Swain confessed he entered the building through a cracked window after the SBI representative had compared the writing on the box top and a note on the blackboard with specimens of Swain's handwriting.

Swain was one of the 18 men in the county who volunteered for a year's military training under the provisions of the selective service act, but it now appears that his entry into military service may be delayed for some time.

There are 150 landlords and tenants in Washington County eligible to vote in the referendum to be held Saturday to determine whether cotton growers wish acreage control and marketing quotas for the crop of 1941.

Polls will be open from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. Only those who engaged in cotton production in 1940 will be eligible to vote. There will be no balloting by mail, proxy of agent except in the case of an authorized agent of a corporation, firm or association or a duly authorized member of a partnership. This makes it necessary for each person to go to the polling place nearest him and cast his ballot.

Polls will be held at the following places with the following poll holders presiding: Plymouth township; agriculture building in Plymouth; S. D. Davis, W. H. Gurkin and A. R. Latham, poll holders; Lees Mills, at John Phelps's Filling Station in Roper, W. C. Spruill, G. C. Phelps and W. T. Freeman poll holders; Scuppernon, W. Dewey Phelps' store at Creswell, W. D. Phelps, Sam Spruill and W. P. Davenport, poll holders.

Marketing quotas will be in effect only if approved by at least two-thirds of the cotton producers voting in the referendum. If there are no marketing quotas in effect in 1941 there will be no loans on cotton in that year, and there will be no restriction on the amount of cotton marketed in 1941. Each producer may market all the cotton he produces regardless of the number of acres planted and, with the present supply on hand, another big crop of cotton will probably cut the price in half, according to farm leaders. If cotton quotas are in effect in 1941 farmers will have the benefit of cotton loan and the amount marketed will be restricted to the amount produced on the acreage allotted; however, a farmer will be allowed to market without penalty all the cotton grown on the acreage allotted.