

W. Linwood Hassell, treasurer of Washington County, left this week for the Veterans' Hospital at Keoughan, Va., where he is undergoing treatment. It is not expected that he will be away for any length of time. Although ill, his condition is not serious, and he is expected to return home shortly.

The Branch Banking and Trust Company will be closed next Tuesday, May 20, in observance of Mecklenburg Day. This is a state holiday, memorializing the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence in Charlotte on May 20, 1775.

J. O. Everett, well known and well liked in Plymouth, where he is recognized as one of its oldest citizens, recently returned home from Danville, Va., where he spent about 13 months with his daughter, Mrs. Gordon H. May. "Captain Jess," as he is known here, said he was glad to be back among his many friends.

A ladder gave way at his home here one day last week, causing E. Ludford McNair, well-known young man, to fall 15 feet to the ground, injuring his back and right ankle. Although knocked unconscious by the fall, he is speedily recovering.

R. L. McMillan, of Wilmington, an automobile dealer and well-known business man of his home section, passed through Plymouth Wednesday on his way to Elizabeth City to attend an Episcopal church meeting. He stopped here briefly and talked with W. R. Hampton and others.

Eddie Joyner, well-known young man who has clerked in several stores here, has been added to the personnel of the Western Auto Automobile Store owned by Joe M. Crowder. Mr. Crowder said yesterday that he was well pleased with the business done since opening of his store last week.

Richard Dillard Dixon, of Edenton, clerk of Chowan County Superior Court, and who, it is believed, will be appointed an emergency judge by Governor J. M. Broughton shortly, was here on business Wednesday. He called on Representative W. M. Darden, W. R. Hampton and Carl L. Bailey while here.

Nine Persons Hurt In Two Accidents in County Last Sunday

One Said To Have Broken Back; Others Not Seriously Injured

One person was reported to have sustained a broken back, another a lacerated scalp, seven others were injured slightly and damage estimated at \$750 was done to two automobiles involved in non-collision traffic accidents in Washington County over the week-end, it was learned from Corporal T. B. Brown of the State Highway Patrol.

David Roberts, 24, white, of Norfolk, was operator of an automobile which turned over two miles east of Roper on Highway No. 64 at 1:50 a. m. Sunday, when Miss Loma Moore received a lacerated scalp. Other occupants slightly injured, besides Roberts, were Hilton Russ, of Pantego; W. M. Lassiter, Norfolk; Dallas Moore, of Collington, N. C.; and Hazel Bateman, Poplar Branch.

Mr. Roberts reported to Corporal Brown that when he turned a curve he found a car stopped on the shoulder of the highway. In an effort to avoid hitting any of those standing about the car he ran off the shoulder and the car turned over.

George Victor McCotter, of Washington and Norfolk, was operator of an automobile which turned over 200 yards south of the Morrattock crossing in front of the Beasley home, on highway No. 32, Sunday night. A passenger in the car, Herbert Alexander, of Stonewall, was reported to have been taken to a hospital with broken back. Mr. McCotter was not seriously injured. E. L. Keel, of the Coast Guard Service, another occupant, was not injured.

Mr. McCotter told Corporal Brown that he was proceeding along the highway when he came around a curve suddenly upon a slow driver. He started to pass and saw another car approaching. Rather than hit either of the automobiles he headed for a cornfield, where his car overturned.

Both the cars were badly damaged.

Efforts Now in Progress to Reorganize Washington County Farm Bureau Unit

Under the leadership of E. H. Liverman, local merchant and farmer, an effort is being made to revive the Washington County Farm Bureau. Several members have been added in the campaign begun recently, and reorganization prospects are said to be increasingly bright. County Agent W. V. Hays stated this week that a strong farmers' organization would make it possible for agriculture to compete more advantageously with the highly organized groups in the various fields of professional, industrial and business life. The

1941 GRADUATING CLASS AT THE PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL



Front row, left to right: Elizabeth Willoughby, Louise Sitterson, Lois Jones, Margaret Bateman, Elaine Odenath, Naomi Swain, Elinor Terry; second row: Harry Barrett, J. C. Jones, Jane Read, Duncan Getsinger, Mildred Styns, Phillip Liverman, Peggy Brown; back row: James Waters, Joe Snell, Stewart Nestor, Frank Garrett, Vernon Joyner. Three seniors were absent when the above picture was taken: Bill Woodley, Bill Owens and Joe Brown.

Three Suits Brought Against Railroad for Causing Forest Fires

Banking Hours To Be Shortened

In order to comply with regulations set forth in the wage and hour law, banks of this section, including the Branch Banking and Trust Company here, will go on a new schedule of hours beginning next Wednesday, May 21, it was announced today by H. E. Beam, cashier. The new schedule will lessen the time the bank is open for business each day by one hour, opening at 9 a. m., and closing at 1 p. m. At present the banks are open from 9 a. m. to 2 p. m. Mr. Beam asks the cooperation of the public in arranging their banking requirements within the hours specified, and it is pointed out that the same hours will be observed by all other banks in this section of the state.

Organization of City Council on New Line Favored by Mayor

Would Give Each Council Member Some Particular Work To Look After

Reorganization of the town council into committees which will have direct supervision of certain departments and phases of work is expected in an effort to effect closer cooperation between the governing body of the town and its employees, it was indicated today by Mayor B. G. Campbell.

The plan under consideration, according to Mr. Campbell, provides for either one or two councilmen to be assigned to cooperate with the mayor and employees of the various departments, including police, sanitation, streets, water system, and other necessary functions of government. There are six councilmen, and, according to the mayor, it is proposed to assign one to devote his attention to the police department, another in charge of purchases, another to look after sanitation, one to help direct street work, and so on down the line. Each of the councilmen will then be in immediate contact with the particular phase of work to which he is assigned, and in turn the entire council will be disposed to cooperate with the recommendations of each member in affairs affecting his particular department, with the mayor to work with all of them.

It is believed that this plan will serve to spread the work and make it less burdensome upon members of the council.

Complaints Allege Damages of \$6,400 To 3 Tracts of Land

Geo. P. Askew, T. M. Bowen And L. T. Weede Are Plaintiffs

Three parties have brought suits, aggregating \$6,400, against L. H. Windholz and M. S. Hawkins, receivers for the Norfolk Southern Railroad Company, and the Norfolk Southern Railroad Company, charging negligence on the part of the railroad resulting in certain forest fires which raged in this county last month, causing considerable damage. George P. Askew and wife, Mrs. Dora Askew, are suing for damages of \$1,000, "or some other large sum," which they claim their timberland loss aggregated when the fire swept over 50 acres of their land.

T. M. Bowen has brought suit for \$2,900 "or some other large sum," for damages done to approximately 100 acres of forest land.

L. T. Weede and Roxanna Weede are suing for \$2,500 as the result of damage done to approximately 40 acres. The complaints allege that the land burned over was "valuable for timber, trees and straw, and also woods mold, pulpwood, cord wood and other property." Charge is made that the "Norfolk Southern Railroad Company had a right of way over this property which they permitted to become foul with dead vegetation, brush, undergrowth, and other materials and debris which defendants had negligently permitted to accumulate on the tracks."

It is further alleged that during April the defendant company operated trains over the right of way and "did unlawfully, carelessly and negligently permit sparks to escape from their engines attached to trains which ignited dead vegetation and other material and debris upon the right of way," the fire spreading to the land of the plaintiffs. The company is charged with failure to equip its engines with "safe and sufficient spark arresters, ash pans and other appliances and devices to prevent the escape of sparks and sparks and keeping such appliances in reasonably safe and proper condition, and negligently failing to man the engine with a competent and careful engineer and crew."

Windows Broken at Two Local Schools

Hardly had the Plymouth schools closed for the summer vacation period last week, when officials found that some misguided youngsters had already begun willful acts of vandalism, which each year causes an unnecessary expense to taxpayers of the county, it was learned this week from Principal Robert B. Trotman.

Twenty-four window panes were found smashed Saturday morning after the schools had officially closed just 24 hours before. The rocks used to smash the panes were found inside the school rooms. There were 6 window panes broken at the Hampton building and 18 at the high school building.

School authorities request those living near the schools to report any needless destruction of public property and to assist in establishing the identity of perpetrators, if possible.

Parents of children are also urged to cooperate in an effort to prevent such acts of vandalism.

Legion Commander Asks Each Citizen to Wear Poppy May 24

Sale Will Be Handled in This County by Legion Auxiliary Members

An appeal to all patriotic citizens to wear a poppy on Saturday, May 24, was issued this week by J. B. Willoughby, commander of the James E. Jethro Post of the American Legion. Describing the poppy as a badge of patriotism, Mr. Willoughby asked that it be worn by everyone in the city during the annual observance of Poppy Day to show a united front for America.

In his appeal the Legion commander said:

"The poppy is the memorial flower of our comrades who fell in France. We wear it to honor their memory and to aid those who were disabled, their families and the families of the dead. Wearing the poppy is our individual way of showing that we remember and are grateful for the sacrifices made in the cause of patriotism."

"Symbolic of life sacrifice for America, and made by men who have sacrificed health and strength for the country, the memorial poppy is a true badge of patriotism. With our country again facing grave dangers, we need to wear the badge and to wear it with sincere devotion to the things for which it stands. Therefore, I am appealing to all patriotic citizens of Plymouth to join with the American Legion and the American Legion auxiliary in the observance of Poppy Day on Saturday, May 24, by wearing an American Legion memorial poppy."

The poppies, which have been made at Oteen hospital by disabled service men, will be distributed throughout the city Saturday of next week by volunteer workers from the American Legion Auxiliary. All money contributed for the flowers will go into the Legion and Auxiliary welfare funds.

L. S. Thompson Home After Stay in Hospital

L. S. Thompson, local merchant, returned last week-end from a Rocky Mount hospital, where he underwent an operation. He was able to be in his store Monday and Tuesday for a short time, although he does not plan to return to active management of it until next week. While the owner of the store was in the hospital, his brother, Robert F. Thompson, of New Bern, came here to operate the business; and, under his supervision, the store has been repainted, both the inside and outside appearance being remodeled and improved. Venetian blinds have been installed as backdrops for the show windows, and the interior fixtures painted and rearranged.

Boy Scout Dance Tomorrow Night

Jimmy Byerly and his 12-piece orchestra, of Louisburg College, will play for the Boy Scout benefit dance at the Plymouth Gymnasium on the night of Friday, May 16, according to J. R. Manning, chairman of the Albemarle district, and P. M. Arps, who is arranging the event.

Miss Catherine Foster will be the vocalist and her singing is said to add much to the entertainment provided by this coming orchestra, which is quite popular in this section, where the orchestra has been heard several times before. The band played at Columbia Tuesday night of this week.

Chairman Manning and Mr. Arps urge a large attendance for the dance, as the proceeds will be used for the Boy Scouts, and the band secured for the occasion is regarded as one of the best dance orchestras in the state.

300 Methodists Here For District Meet in Local Church Today

Practically All 33 Charges In Elizabeth City District Represented

More than 300 persons, representing practically all of the 33 charges in the Elizabeth City District of the Methodist Church met at the local church today to hear discussions on world service, education, lay activities, temperance and evangelism by leading churchmen.

At the morning session, the Rev. Charles E. Dale, of Murfreesboro, led the devotionals. The Rev. B. B. Slaughter, district superintendent, of Elizabeth City, presided and the Rev. H. F. Surratt, of Windsor, served as secretary. Z. V. Norman welcomed the visitors on behalf of the local church.

Addresses were made as follows during the early part of the conference: "Women's Work," by Mrs. Glenn Pendleton, of Elizabeth City, district secretary of women's work; "Making the District Missionary Conscious," by the Rev. John R. Poe, of Aulander; "The American Bible Society," by the Rev. R. F. Munns, of Hertford; "Education as an Adult Problem," by the Rev. A. L. Thompson, of Ahoskie; "Education Gives Youth a Chance and a Challenge," by the Rev. O. L. Hardwick, of Plymouth; "Feed My Lambs," by Miss Alma Cade, of Durham, a representative of the Christian Board of Education, and Mrs. B. B. Slaughter, of Elizabeth City; and "Religion in Education," by the Rev. R. W. Bradshaw, of Durham.

"Lay Activities" was discussed by John R. Jenkins, jr., of Aulander, district lay leader; "Witnessing," by Dow Bancroft, of Chicago, associate general secretary; "Address" by Dr. W. K. Greene, of Duke University; and "Evangelism, Our Chief Task," by the Rev. D. A. Clarke, of Washington.

At the afternoon session, which followed lunch on the grounds, the Rev. D. I. Gardner, of Belhaven, led the devotionals, and the Rev. L. T. Singleton, of Moxock, made the temperance report. W. N. Vaughn made an address on the quarterly conference record system, followed by a report from the licensing committee, read by the Rev. L. B. Jones, of Elizabeth City. The hospital and homes report was made by Dr. Maynard O. Fletcher, superintendent of a Washington hospital; and the finance committee report was made by the Rev. T. A. Smithwick.

Total of 162 Young Men of County Now in Military Services

112 in Army, 39 in Navy, 4 in Marine Corps and 7 in National Guard

If the eight colored men scheduled to leave here next Thursday are accepted for service in the armed forces of the nation, Washington County will have a total of 170 young white and colored men "doing their bit" in connection with the national defense program, it was learned today from S. A. Ward, clerk to the local selective service board.

There are 111 men from the county who entered some branch of military service who were not called through the operation of the selective service act. With the 8 men supposed to leave next Thursday, there will be 99 in the service who went through operation of the selective service act.

Out of the 111 men who were not affected by the draft act, 61 went to the army, 39 to the navy, 4 to the marine corps and 7 went with the national guard. Practically all of these were white. There have been 30 white men sent from the county since the selective service act became effective; and if the 8 colored men leaving next week pass the physical examination it will bring the total for that race from the county to 29. All of the selectees went to the army.

The number of men going into the service from this county, which has a total population of about 12,000, proves that men in this section have demonstrated their full share of patriotism. This is further proven by the fact that more than twice as many have entered the service by the volunteer route as have been chosen through selective service.

Those scheduled to leave next Thursday follow: John Carter, Creswell, volunteer; Robert Lee Bennett, Creswell, volunteer; James Russell Norman, Plymouth, order No. 115; Aaron Junior Simmons, Plymouth, order No. 128; James Alphonso Williams Roper, order No. 140; Sampson Tove Heath, Plymouth, order No. 166; Melvin J. Hines, Roper, order No. 195; William Henry Powell, Roper, order No. 200.

Five White Men Called To Enter Service June 3

A call has been issued by the State Selective Service Board for five white selectees from Washington County, to leave on Tuesday, June 3. The men will be sent to Fort Jackson, S. C., according to present plans. Four hundred white men were called from the state as a whole to leave during early June.

Board of Education Is Considering Locations For New School Here

YOUNGEST MAYOR



Henry Starr Everett, 26, this week became mayor of Roper, and it is believed he is one of the youngest mayors in the state.

E. F. Still Offers To Donate Site; Others Are Being Studied

Sites Owned by Joe Leggett And Branch Bank Are Said Favored

Although nothing definite has yet been decided, the Washington County Board of Education has under consideration the generous offer of E. F. Still, president and manager of the Plymouth Box and Panel Company, of a free site for the erection of a 10-room modern grammar school building. Mr. Still made his offer in a public statement to the Lions Club last Thursday that his company was willing to donate enough of the land on the north side of Highway 64, east of Plymouth, between Browning's store and his residence, for a school building and adjoining playground.

However, the school officials are still interested in a lot owned by Joe Leggett, just south of the present high school building on Washington Street. It is understood that the board of education members consider the price quoted as excessive.

The school authorities are also interested in a site owned by the Branch Banking and Trust Company at the west end of Fort Williams Street. If the new school building was placed on this property, it would be located at one end of the street and the high school building at the other end of the same street. It is pointed out that this location would provide adequate playground space, is removed from highway traffic and the price is reported to be fairly reasonable.

With approximately \$50,000 in local and WPA funds available for relieving congested conditions in the local schools, the officials hope to build a new elementary school structure, replace the roof and install a new heating plant in the high school building.

The old Hampton Academy, recently condemned for use as a school building, is to be offered for sale, and one group is reported to be already interested in its purchase.

Funeral Services for Mrs. John L. Phelps In Creswell Tuesday

Prominent County Woman Died at Home There Sunday Evening

Creswell.—Funeral services were held at Christ Episcopal church here Tuesday afternoon for Mrs. Ida W. Phelps, 65, who died at her home here Sunday evening at 8:15. She was the wife of John L. Phelps, prominent farm operator and property owner. The Rev. B. W. Gaither, rector of the local church, conducted the services, assisted by the Rev. C. E. Williams, of New Bern, and the Rev. John Hardy, of Williamston. Interment was made in the cemetery of St. David's Episcopal church near here.

At the funeral service, "Rock of Ages" was sung by the choir at the church and a quartet sang "Abide With Me." Mrs. Sam Sykes, of Columbia, sang "Art Thou Weary, Art Thou Languid?" The Rev. Mr. Williams read "Now the Laborer's Task Is Over" at the grave.

Mrs. Phelps was widely known in this section and regarded by all as a very devoted mother. Her influence for good was felt by people of all walks of life with whom she came in contact, including teachers, ministers, business men and women, orphans and others. She was a leader in the church and Sunday school activities of the Episcopal church, of which she was long a most loyal and active member.

The large floral offering from friends both far and near attested to the esteem in which she was held by all who knew her.

The daughter of the late A. G. and Alice Dillon Walker, she was a life-long resident of Washington County, living in Plymouth during her early married life. She was married to John L. Phelps, large property owner and one of the most prominent citizens of this county, a number of years ago.

Surviving, besides her husband, John L. Phelps, are one daughter, Mrs. Milton Starr, of New York City; and three sons, Lindsey M. Phelps, of Raleigh; William L. Phelps, of Charlotte; and Dr. J. M. Phelps, of Creswell. She also leaves two granddaughters, Virginia Phelps, Raleigh, and Ida Jones Phelps, Charlotte; two sisters, Mrs. R. H. Bachman, of Edenton, and Mrs. J. L. Grandy, of Norfolk; and two brothers, Dr. Herbert D. Walker, of Elizabeth City; and Harry G. Walker, of Washington, N. C.

Active pall-bearers were W. L. Davenport, W. D. Phelps, J. R. Manning, P. W. Brown, Jack Spruill, Jim Sexton, Alton Harris and Clyde Smithson.

Two Cases Tried In Recorders Court

A bond of \$1,000 was required for the appearance of Allen Rouse, 36, colored, in Washington County Superior Court at the July term to answer to a charge of breaking and entering the house of George Bagley with the intent to commit an assault on Bagley's young daughter.

In the preliminary hearing in recorder's court Tuesday, it was said that Rouse broke a screen, entered the room in which two young daughters of Mr. Bagley were sleeping on the bed, while the father and a son were sleeping on the floor. The negro was in the room when the father awoke and asked him why he was there, to which Rouse replied that he had come to give Mr. Bagley a drink.

June Chambers, 23, colored, was given a sentence of six months on the roads, suspended upon payment of \$50 and costs after being found guilty of assaulting Mary Sherrod with a brick, and with breaking and entering the home of John Williams by forcing a rear door.

Sam J. Nash, 43, white, charged with operating an automobile while under the influence of intoxicants, had his case continued until next Tuesday.

Games At Williamston Friday Night and Sunday

A number of local people are planning to attend the baseball games in Williamston Friday night and Sunday afternoon, when the Martins are playing at home. The Williamston club meets Rocky Mount Friday night at 8 p. m. and Kinston Sunday afternoon at 3 in Coastal Plain league games.

Governor Broughton Will Be Principal Speaker at Wenona Field Day July 24

Governor J. Melville Broughton will be the principal speaker at the annual Farmers' Field Day at Blackland Test Farm at Wenona on Thursday, July 24, it was learned today from Representative W. M. Darden, who invited the state's chief executive.

J. L. Rea, jr., assistant director in charge of the Blackland Station, was very much pleased when he received the news that the governor would be here on that occasion.

W. Kerr Scott, Commissioner of Agriculture, and Fred E. Miller, State director of test farms, in the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, will be present to add to the occasion.

Representative Darden extended the invitation to Governor Broughton and Commissioner Scott, and Mr. Miller followed up the request to the governor. Advances from Raleigh state it has been definitely decided that Governor Broughton will come to Washington County on that day to speak to the large group of farmers expected to be present.

This annual event has been one of the most important to farmers in this section for years, and it is expected that with the additional emphasis being placed on live stock at the station now and with Governor Broughton to be the speaker, there will be a much larger crowd present this year than ever before.