

Private Ernest J. Davenport, of Creswell, Route 1, a member of the Army Medical Department, recently was relieved from duty in the office of the Port Surgeon, San Francisco Port of Embarkation at Fort Mason, and was assigned to duty aboard the U. S. Army Transport "Cynthia Olsen." This information came from the War Department, and was December 2.

Commodore Heath, widely known and highly respected colored man, who served as cook for marlin fishing and fishing parties in the section, and who cooked at the Hampton Fisheries here for years, died this week and was buried Wednesday afternoon.

A. B. Combs, state high school inspector, visited the Plymouth school this week and discussed addition of the twelfth grade in the local school. He found that plans had already been made for this addition, and extended his congratulations on the work being done locally.

L. R. Ausbon was last week exhibiting a carpenter's hand saw reported to be more than 50 years old. He said the steel in the saw was of the best quality. Mr. Ausbon said he has not had the saw very long himself, but he knows that its age is about 50 years. It was a well-known brand.

The Navy Department announced this week that Cecil E. Blount, of Roper, had been recommended for promotion from lieutenant junior grade to lieutenant senior grade. The information was released through district headquarters at Charleston, S. C.

William E. Cheshire has accepted a government appointment as associate inspector of engineering materials for the Navy Department at the plant of the Aluminum Company of America at Alcoa, Tenn. Mr. Cheshire was employed here with the North Carolina Pulp Company. Mr. and Mrs. Cheshire will make their home in Knoxville, leaving in two weeks.

The Plymouth Merchants Association, at a meeting Monday, decided that stores here would begin remaining open until 9 p. m. on Friday of next week, December 19. From then until Christmas the stores will remain open until 9 p. m., except on Saturday and Christmas Eve night, when the closing hour will be even later.

The Beacon regrets that the name of W. F. Winslow's 5c to \$1 store was inadvertently omitted from the list of members of the Plymouth Merchants Association which appeared in an advertisement last week. Mr. Winslow was one of the charter members and is still a leading figure in affairs of the association.

S. E. Beasley, local painter, this week received a very pleasant surprise. Forty years ago he loaned an acquaintance \$2.40. This week the man sent the money to him and thanked him for the loan that had been made nearly a half century ago.

Cotton Growers Will Ballot Saturday on Quotas for 1942 Crop

619 Farmers in County Eligible, But Not Over 150 Expected to Vote

A total of 619 cotton producers of Washington County are eligible to cast their ballots Saturday in the referendum on acreage control, marketing control and accompanying loan program, for 1942. It is believed here that hardly more than 150 of those eligible would vote. Last year the county vote was 133 to 4 in favor of allotments.

Polls will be open from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. Voting places will be as follows in the three AAA districts in the county: Plymouth Township, agriculture building, Plymouth; Lees Mills Township, Jim Gaylord's station, Roper; and Scuppernon Township, W. D. Phelps' store in Creswell. The names of poll holders were not available yesterday.

Every farmer who produced cotton in 1941, regardless of whether he is a tenant, sharecropper, or land owner, may vote in the referendum. Quotas—and loans, which this season were offered at 85 per cent of parity to AAA cooperators—have been in effect for the past four seasons. During this period state and county growers have witnessed a sharp increase of prices, which for this season, was more than double the discouraging 8-cent average in 1937, the last year in which there were no quotas. North Carolina cotton prices this year have been above 17 cents.

Marketing quotas will be in effect only if approved by at least two-thirds of the cotton producers voting in the referendum. Cotton growers throughout the United States will also vote on the question Saturday. The surplus or world supply of cotton today is approximately 48,500,000 bales. American cotton on hand today is approximately 23,800,000 bales. Agricultural officials of the AAA say that this is enough cotton for the country's needs for two years even under war conditions.

If there are no marketing quotas in 1942, there will be no loans on cotton in that year, and there will be no restriction on the amount of cotton marketed in 1942. A farmer may market without penalty all the cotton produced on his allotted acreage.

Air-Raid Warning Spotters Advised To Stand by Their Posts for Service

The fact that the United States is at war with Japan struck home forcibly this week to Washington County people, as volunteer civilian air-warning spotters in Eastern North Carolina were ordered to man their observation posts 24 hours daily until further notified, it was reported today by Chief of Police P. W. Brown, of Plymouth, head of the organization in this county.

Washington County posts are under the direction of the First Interceptor Command, which is controlled from Mitchell Field, N. Y. These posts were ordered activated, and while they are not actually being manned at present, observers were ordered to be ready to take over on short notice.

Four of the 220 posts in the area embraced in the First Interceptor Command are in this county. The northeastern section of North Carolina is considered of importance in the warning service, since invading planes may well sweep over the section in proceeding up the coast to Norfolk, Washington, and other important cities along the eastern coast.

Air-raid warning spotters in the county, who received practice during the maneuvers completed in November, include the following: No. 1 post, J. L. Rea, at Wenona; No. 2, J. E. Phelps, at Roper; No. 3, J. C. Tarkenton, at Pleasant Grove; and No. 4, Earl Davenport, at Creswell.

Red Cross Issues First War Call on County; Ask \$1,500 Be Raised

No Fireworks in Business District

Shooting of fireworks will not be allowed in the downtown section nor around churches during the Christmas season, Chief of Police P. W. Brown warned today.

However, the chief explained that regulations prohibiting the shooting of fireworks throughout the town would be suspended during the holiday period, except as to the business district on Water and Washington streets and around churches. The officer warned that he wasn't fooling, either, about this; and those who just must have their pyrotechnics would do well to keep them out of the prohibited areas unless they want to spend some Christmas money in paying fines.

Meet Monday Night To Formulate Plans Of Quick Campaign

Amount Asked Is Additional To That Raised in Roll Call Drive

An urgent special meeting of workers and officials of the Washington County chapter of the American Red Cross was today called for Monday night, December 15, at 7:30, in the courthouse here, by Chairman John W. Darden. The meeting will be held primarily to consider plans for raising \$1,500 as the county's quota in the \$50,000,000 campaign in the nation to take care of the expenses of the Red Cross, which has been called upon to be ready to assist the nation in connection with the war in Japan.

Mr. Darden issued the call for a meeting upon receipt of the following telegram from Norman H. Davis, national Red Cross Chairman:

"Again the Red Cross is called upon to serve our nation in war. Both nationally and locally we face vast and definite responsibilities for services to our armed forces and for relief to distressed civilians. To provide essential funds, the Red Cross today is launching a campaign for a war fund of a minimum of \$50,000,000. President Roosevelt will on Friday issue a proclamation supporting this appeal. Your chapter quota is \$1,500. Chapters may retain 15 per cent of their collections for local war relief expenditures. Chapters should at once devote full efforts to raising their quotas in the shortest time possible. Please report action taken. We must not and shall not fail in this crisis."

In outlining plans for answering the first call made upon Washington County citizens for war service, Mr. Darden said that Plymouth and Plymouth Township had been allotted the task of raising \$700; Roper and Lees Mill Township, (Wenona not included), \$400; Creswell, Scuppernon and Skinnerville Townships, \$350; and Wenona, \$50.

The chairman said that he would suggest at the meeting Monday night the naming of a Central Red Cross War Relief Committee chairman, and that this committee organize a working committee in each of the subdivisions of the county, as indicated in the quotas for each section. Plans for the campaign include at least a fourth of the amount allotted each section being raised through the

See RED CROSS, Page Four

Young Man Critically Hurt In Accident at Plant Here

Robert Wright, local young man, was critically injured Wednesday night, when he was buried beneath a pile of bark in a bin at the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company. He remained under the bark for some time before he was rescued. Reports today indicate that he will recover unless unforeseen complications develop. He was thought to have slipped and struck his head while at work in the bin.

Plans Will Be Made Friday Night to Care For Poor in County

Representative of Each Organization in Town Is Asked To Be Present

Indigent families in this section will be taken care of this Christmas through the organized efforts of clubs and other organizations, representatives of which are asked to meet with Chief of Police P. W. Brown in the community hall Friday night just as soon as the crowd disperses after the visit of Santa Claus.

The chief hopes at that time to have a representative present from every club and organization in the town of Plymouth. They will be asked to put their shoulders to the wheel in helping to solicit funds and to prepare and distribute the baskets which will be prepared for the section's needy.

Several clubs have already voted to donate money to the Christmas Joy Fund, but there has been no central organization set up to accept the money and handle the purchase, preparation and distribution of the articles of clothing, food and toys that will go into the Christmas baskets.

The local volunteer firemen have been at work for weeks in repairing and repainting discarded toys to be delivered to the needy. They still would like to receive any old or discarded toys for renovation. It is suggested that those who do not have any old toys might purchase a new one and leave it with the firemen to be included in the lot. School children will probably be asked to bring contributions of old clothing next week, and everyone will be given an opportunity to contribute money, clothing, food, toys, fruit, or whatever else may be needed for the unfortunate.

The committee to be appointed to investigate the needy cases will very likely include the welfare superintendent, Miss Ursula Bateman. It will be decided upon the kind of basket that will be best suited for any needy family, and those who wish to prepare baskets will be advised what each should contain. So far as known now, those who wish to receive a basket from the Christmas Joy Fund will have to call for them, as it will be impossible to perfect an organization to deliver them before Christmas, it was stated.

Schools To Complete Half of Year's Work Prior To Christmas

Examinations Scheduled for Next Week; Attendance Stressed by Principal

When the Plymouth school closes for the Christmas holidays on December 19, it will have completed half of the year's work, according to Principal Robert B. Trotman, who added that semester examinations will begin next Monday afternoon, December 15, with two examinations to be given daily through Thursday, December 18.

Mr. Trotman also said that examinations in the elementary grades will be given next week according to the schedules announced by the various room teachers. Review work is now in progress at the schools in all grades, making it very important that all students attend regularly, and the principal particularly urges parents to cooperate by seeing that their children attend as regularly as possible during this period. He especially asks that students not be permitted to remain away from school to go on shopping tours or to work in local stores or other places of business. The schools must maintain their schedules, he said, and work missed by students now will be their loss.

In the announcement, Mr. Trotman made it clear that if a child misses an examination for any reason other than illness, the examination will not be given over. In the case of illness, a doctor's certificate must be secured by the student in order for the teacher to give the examination over. During the examination period, the school hours will continue the same as usual, classes beginning at 8:30 and dismissing at 3:30, with the lunch period from 12:15 to 1 o'clock. All pupils are expected to be in their places during these hours, the principal said.

Number County Men in Area Bombed by Japanese Sunday

You Better Watch Out, You Better Not Pout—Santa Claus Is Coming to Town

Santa Claus will make his annual visit to the Plymouth business section Friday night at 8 o'clock in front of the community building on Water Street, facing Washington Street. All preparations have been made for his visit, which is sponsored by the Plymouth Merchants Association.

Dave Kulman, L. H. Lowe, and W. F. Winslow have completed arrangements for the annual visit of the patron saint of all children. The Plymouth High School Band will play, and all the girls and boys present will receive gifts from the hand of Santa himself. The method of his coming is a deep, dark secret. But it will not be by bus this year.

Begin Organizing for Civilian Defense Work In County and Region

Several Phases of Work Have Been Put Into Operation

Civilian Defense Council, Inactive for Some Time, Recalled To Service

Inactive for some time as defense lagged along, the local Civilian Defense Council bounced back into prominence this week, as Wilbur M. Darden, chairman of the Civilian Defense Council of Washington, Tyrrell and Hyde Counties, announced the appointment of men who are being urged to begin immediate organization for active service when and if this section is faced with an emergency.

The aircraft warning service is headed by P. W. Brown, who has his organization ready for immediate action. Mr. Darden will arrange for volunteer registration of those who wish to enlist for home defense service. A group, to be designated as "V-Men," who will be available for public speaking and other such services, will be named later; and a civilian protection committee, to aid in general protective arrangements, is also to be set up later.

Plymouth Fire Chief Miller Warren has returned home after a visit to Raleigh yesterday, when State Fire Marshall Sherwood Brockwell laid the groundwork for a school to be held later to teach firemen and other volunteers the proper fire and air-raid warning signals, as well as how to handle the various types of bombs and take precautions for general air-raid protection. The local fire chief will probably head the fire protection group. Air-raid wardens will be named throughout the county. Chiefs of police in Roper, Creswell and Plymouth will comprise the police protection committee.

In additions appointments are still to be made of those who will be in charge of emergency medical service; See DEFENSE, Page Four

Funeral Services For Warren Swain

Funeral services were held Tuesday at the home near here for Travis Warren Swain, 49, who taken suddenly ill at the Norfolk Navy Yard last Friday and died Monday at his home. The Rev. E. C. Morris, of Elizabeth City, officiated, assisted by the Rev. L. B. Bennett, of Creswell. Interment took place in a cemetery near here.

Mr. Swain was well known in this county and for years he was a member of the Piney Grove church. Surviving are four daughters: Mrs. Ethyle Ballance, of Portsmouth; Mrs. Vida Sawyer, of Princess Anne, Va.; Misses Gaynell and Dorcas Swain, of this county; and five sons: Whitford, Loomis, Rex and Otis Swain, of this county, and Travis Swain, Jr., of Norfolk. He also leaves two brothers: D. S. Swain, of Pinetown, and J. L. Swain, of Roper; and three sisters, Mrs. Belle Alexander and Mrs. Della Alexander, both of Roper, and Mrs. Maggie White, of Columbia.



The gift that fights inflation while bringing joy and protection.

C. C. Lang Cucumber Plant Here May Be Doubled in Capacity

Hope To Make It Central Receiving Point for Several Counties

Plans are now being formulated for the local receiving and processing plant of C. C. Lang & Son, Inc., to become the focal point for 1,000 acres of cucumbers to be produced in three or four counties in this section during 1942, according to G. S. Respass, manager of the local plant.

The company hopes to arrange for the planting of about 500 acres to cucumbers in Washington County; 250 acres in Tyrrell; 200 in Bertie County around Windsor; and 100 in Beaufort County around Pinetown; bringing the total to 1,000 acres.

The Baltimore concern has already made agreements in this county for about 200 acres, and others who wish contracts for cucumbers are asked to apply either at the plant on Brinkley Avenue or to the E. S. Blount Hardware and Seed Store here. Arrangements are being to double the capacity of the local plant. There are now 48 vats at the station here, and it is hoped that sufficient acreage can be contracted for to add 50 more vats, which will be installed in time to receive the crop produced in this section, it was stated.

Program of Services at Grace Episcopal Church

The following services will be held at Grace Episcopal church Sunday: 10 a. m., Church school. 11 a. m., morning worship and Holy Communion, with the Rev. Sidney E. Matthews as celebrant. There will be no evening services.

United States at War With All Axis Nations

By the time this article appears in print, the United States doubtless will be officially at war with all the Axis Powers—including Germany, Italy, and Japan. Following a dramatic appearance of President Roosevelt before the Congress Monday, Congress passed a joint resolution declaring that a state of war existed between this nation and Japan, and the President made it official by signing the measure at 4:10 p. m. the same day. War had previously been declared by the Japanese on the United States the

day before, official announcement coming after United States Pacific outposts had been attacked and bombed without warning and with heavy loss of life in both houses. The raid of Japanese bombers on United States outposts early Sunday morning came while the special envoy and ambassador of Nippon were still in conference about negotiations to settle their Pacific difficulties peacefully. The attack caught the United States off guard, and severe damage was reported to the American Navy in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. A total of

3,000 persons, mostly civilians, were killed or wounded on the Island of Oahu. Army and Navy bases in the Philippines have since been attacked again and again, but latest reports from Manila indicate that the situation is well in hand there. There are no reports of casualties among young men in the service from this county, although a number of them are known to be in the areas where the attacks took place. Allied with the United States in its war on the axis are most

of the Central and South American nations, as well as the British Empire and most of its Dominions, the Chinese Republic, practically all of the exiled governments of the European continent, including the Free French, and Russia. The latter country has not yet announced its intentions toward the Japanese, but it has already proven its worth to the Allied cause. Vichy France is reported to be leaning toward closer collaboration with the axis, and eventual war with the Petain government may follow.

Several of Number Known To Be Stationed in and Near Honolulu

Eight or More Said On Duty With Army And Navy in Pacific

Washington County was well represented in the bombed areas of the Pacific early last Sunday, when, without warning, Japanese airplanes raided Honolulu and Pearl Harbor, in the Territory of Hawaii, some points on the Philippine Islands, and other United States outposts in the Pacific Ocean. Announcement that war had been declared was not made by the Japanese Empire until several hours after the first bombing raids had been made.

Little information has reached the United States from the attacked areas concerning the identities of those injured or killed in the raids. Although considerably worried about the safety of relatives in the zone of attacks, so far as can be learned here today, no one in the county has received any word direct from there. Those who have relatives in the Pacific area, however, are still hoping that no harm befell them and are anxiously awaiting word from them.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Hurley, of Plymouth, last heard from their son, D. A. Hurley, at Fort Kam, seven miles from Honolulu. Lonnie H. Craddock, of Roper, was also with young Hurley at the time. Nothing has been heard from either since the attack early Sunday. First Lieutenant Joseph H. Patterson, a brother to Mrs. Ellis Maples here, is adjutant of the 18th Pursuit Squadron, stationed at Schofield Barracks near Honolulu. He lives in the suburb of Wahiawa, where a Japanese bomber was reported shot down within a few feet of the courthouse.

Hubert L. Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Cox here, is on the U. S. S. "Maryland," last reported at Pearl Harbor. Young Cox is a petty officer on the "Maryland," which is commanded by Captain Donald Godwin, a native of Williamston. Mr. Cox has been stationed at Pearl Harbor for about six years. Bob Bateman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bateman, sr., of the U. S. S. "Solace," was last heard from in Pearl Harbor.

Herman Craddock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Craddock, of the Roper section, is reported to be in Honolulu; and Albert Garrett, also of Roper, is another county youth who is understood to be with the army in Honolulu.

Ray Swain, son of Mrs. Maggie Swain here, is reported to be at Pearl Harbor. He has been in the Navy for a number of years.

Tom Davenport, son of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Davenport, of Creswell, a pharmacist mate in the Navy, is reported to be in Guam. This is the island closest to Japanese territory, and President Roosevelt, in his speech Tuesday night, said that we may expect to hear it has fallen into the hands of the enemy at any time. At last reports, however, the Japanese had not been reported to be in possession there.

Master Sergeant William W. Woodley, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Woodley, of the Skinnerville section, who made his home with Mrs. Maggie Davenport, is said to be in the Army Air Corps at Panama, where raiding attempts are expected at any time.

A. R. Patrick, jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Patrick, sr., of the Skinnerville section, first-class gunner in the Army Air Corps, left Norfolk recently for an unknown destination which it was believed would land him some place in the Pacific.

Lieutenant Commander Lawrence Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Clark, who has been stationed in California, was ordered to leave this week for some undisclosed destination. It is believed he has been ordered to one of the Pacific outposts of the nation. He is a graduate of Annapolis and commands a squadron of airplanes. His parents went to Washington, D. C., early this week to bid him good-bye.

Corporals Carlton and Thomas Spruill left New York some time ago for an unknown destination. They are in the Army and may be stationed at anyone of the nation's widespread outposts.

W. B. Cox, jr., another son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Cox, is on the U. S. S. "Wilkes," a destroyer, and is believed to be on the Atlantic Ocean. Recent letters from him bore no postmark, and he was not permitted to tell where he was.

Samuel Bray Bateman, son of Mrs. Pauline Bateman, of Plymouth; and Hickman B. Jackson, son of Charlie Jackson, formerly of Plymouth, are on the cruiser "Brooklyn," and last reports had them on the Atlantic Ocean.

There have been reports that a large number of young men from the county have left to enlist in various branches of the armed service since first reports reached this county Sunday afternoon that the Japanese had attacked American islands in the Pacific.