

The annual Christmas party for children of the Methodist Sunday school will be held at the church Wednesday night at 7:30 p. m.

It was announced this week that Lansing Carroll Peacock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Peacock, of Roper, had graduated recently from the officer candidates' school at Camp Lee, Va., and received his commission as second lieutenant in the Army Quartermaster Corps.

Attention is again called by the local rationing board to the hours the office is open to the public, as follows: From 10 to 12 a. m. and from 1 to 3 p. m.

When gasoline sales were halted to owners of A, B and C books last Friday at noon, the local rationing board office was kept busy explaining to stranded motorists that it had no authority to issue "emergency" allotments.

Frederick R. Smith, first-class electrician's mate, of the United States Navy, and Mrs. Smith spent last week-end here with his brother, Maurice Smith, and family.

James E. Mizelle, who suffered a slight skull fracture last Wednesday when he rode his bicycle into the car door of Chief of Police P. W. Brown, was taken to a Washington hospital Sunday and is reported to be getting along very well today.

Registration of 18-year-olds for selective service showed a decided pick-up at the office of the local board here during the past week.

More than thirty regular and temporary employees of Rose's 5 and 10 cent store here were guests at a turkey supper given by the company at the Plymouth Country Club Friday night of last week.

Charles B. Craddock, machinist's mate, second class, with the Coast Guard, is now stationed at Portsmouth, Va., according to word received here this week.

County Way Ahead Of War Bond Quota, For Month and Year

Local Sales Total \$31,225 in December, Against Goal Of \$21,000

Washington County is already well over its December quota of War Bond sales, reports today show. The local bank has sold \$17,725 worth of the bonds so far this month, and the post office sold \$13,500 worth, for a total of \$31,225 against a quota of \$21,000 for December.

Mr. Beam recently worked up the total amount of bonds sold in Plymouth during the first year of the war. From December 7, 1941, to December 7, 1942, the total was \$330,350, which is considerably above the quotas assigned to the county as a whole.

Monthly quotas of bonds have been assigned only since April. The first quota, for May, was \$9,500. This was easily more than doubled. The July quota was the largest, \$37,600, and was the only one assigned which was not topped.

Business Houses Extend Greetings

As an expression of their appreciation for the friendship and patronage accorded them in the past, Plymouth Merchants and other business men pause at this Christmas time to extend their sincere greetings to all the people of this section through the columns of this paper today.

A new hope and a greater understanding are created at Christmas time, and to enhance the value of these, the business forces of the town express, in a most sincere way, their wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Read the little messages, without which Christmas would be little more than just another day in the year, and know that these firms are interested in your happiness at all times, and especially at this glad season.

Ice and Snow Come Ahead of Winter in Section This Year

Blizzard Sunday Made OPA Piker at This Freezing Business

According to the World Almanac, winter did not officially begin until 6:40 a. m., Tuesday, December 22, but as far as Washington County folks are concerned, they hope that the worst of it was over before it was even supposed to start.

Garage men and filling station operators were busy all day Monday thawing out and starting cars. Frozen and burst water pipes were reported all over town, and there was a big demand for plumbers.

The extreme cold was aggravated to a large measure by a shortage of several types of fuel. Oil, of course, is being rationed, and few consumers have any surplus to burn.

War Stamp Sales Here on Decrease

War stamp sales at the local post office have shown a decrease since the merchants association campaign ended last week, Postmaster John W. Darden said this week.

Another angle which the postmaster commented on was the unusually heavy redemption of war stamps for cash during the past few days. In fact, last week the amount of stamps turned back into the post office was actually in excess of the amount sold, he said.

CHRISTMAS PEACE IN A WORLD AT WAR

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Those words express the Divine purpose of the event which we celebrate on Christmas day.

Few Farmers Able To Qualify for New Draft Classification

Local Board Asks Reduction From 16 To 10 War Units for Deferment

The local draft board is receiving many statements from county farmers subject to the selective service act concerning their farming activities. These statements will be considered at meetings of the board to be held after the first of January in considering the reclassification of all registrants who list farming as their occupation.

Information received by the board here indicates that comparatively few farmers in this county can qualify for the 2-C and 3-C classification recently set up by the national selective service director.

A war unit is defined by selective service officials to be the care of the following number of animals or acres by an individual farmer: Beef cattle, farm herds, 12; feedlot, 20; range,

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No Applications for Fuel Oil Considered If Not Filed by 26th

Saturday Night Is Deadline For Postmark on Fuel-Oil Requests

Announcing that most of the applications for fuel oil for heating purposes had been acted on by the rationing board office here, Mrs. J. K. Reid, secretary to the board, said Monday that positively no applications postmarked after Saturday, December 26, would be considered by the board.

Mrs. Reid also asks all those filling out application blanks for anything rationed by the board to be very careful to furnish all the information required, as it is impossible to act on requests unless the application is properly executed.

The secretary to the board also said that no provision or instruction...

Workers of Section to Get From 1 to 4 Days Holiday for Christmas

Beacon Office To Be Closed 4 Days

The office of The Roanoke Beacon will be closed after Tuesday night until next Monday morning, in order to give members of the "force" their annual Christmas vacation.

Everybody will be back on the job and ready for "business as usual" next Monday morning, and, in the meantime, every member of the crew hopes every reader of the Beacon has the best, happiest and merriest Christmas ever.

Volume of Mail at Post Office Here at New Record Level

Added Space in Office Has Reduced Congestion, Darden Says

The Plymouth post office is now right in the midst of its banner Christmas mailing season. Postmaster John W. Darden said Monday. The volume of mail is greater than it has ever been before, both incoming and outgoing, and employees hope that the peak was reached Monday.

The postmaster said that stamp sales Monday were expected to total around \$500, a new record. More than 10,000 1 1/2-cent stamps, the kind usually used on greeting cards, were sold, with other denominations in proportion.

The post office will continue to provide a large measure of service throughout the Christmas holidays, it was said, although it means that employees will have but little time off for themselves.

Fire Monday Afternoon Destroys Residence Here

The one-story frame dwelling occupied by Willie McNair, colored, was almost completely destroyed by fire Tuesday afternoon. Very few of the family's belongings were saved, and the house is almost a total loss.

No Session of Recorder's Court Held This Week

"People in Washington County have been either mighty good or mighty careful during the past week," said Acting Superior Court Clerk W. B. Cox this week, in reporting that there was no session of recorder's court Tuesday.

A Message By The Rev. H. St. George Tucker, D. D. Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

"No true peace is possible for those who are slaves of sin. Christ is the Prince of Peace because first of all He is our Savior, or Redeemer. He does not force His gifts upon us. His method of saving is beautifully described in the Book of the Revelation: 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.'"

OUR CHRISTMAS WISH FOR ALL OUR READERS

May everybody this Christmas get back the faith and trust of a little child. The faith that moves mountains and fills stockings!

May all those who have grown up regain the illusions they may have lost, and face the world with renewed trust and good fellowship.

That is the Christmas wish we make for you and the hope we cherish for ourselves.

THE ROANOKE BEACON

Permit Hunting of Quail on Holidays

County Game Protector J. T. Terry has been advised by Hinton James, game and fish commissioner, that the Board of Conservation and Development has decided to permit the shooting of quail on Friday, December 25, and Friday, January 31, these dates ordinarily being lay days in this and a number of adjoining counties.

Opening of Christmas and New Year's day for quail hunters provides three straight days for shooting this week and next, Thursday Friday and Saturday of each week. During the remainder of the open season, quail may be hunted only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

36 Colored Selectees Go to Camp Monday

Thirty-six colored men reported to the Washington County Selective Service Board Monday morning and finally left for Fort Bragg about 11 o'clock, two hours late as a result of the weather. Icy roads delayed arrival of the special bus on which the men were to leave.

The local board is now preparing to send another contingent of 50 colored selectees to camp on Friday, January 8.



inner peace of His individual followers. He bade us pray for the coming of God's Kingdom on earth. Peace in the soul of the individual is to be transmitted to the outer environment. The mission of Christ who was born on Christmas was not to provide an escape from earth's turmoil and tragedy. He came to transform the kingdoms of this world; kingdoms where sin and selfishness lead to conflict and agony, into the Kingdom of God. He came to bring that peace which is the fruit of righteousness.

Peace on earth is possible only where earth's children have been born again as God's children. The significance of Christmas in wartime is therefore an invitation to listen amidst the world's clamors for the Savior's knock upon the doors of our hearts with the assurance that if we open them to Him, He will qualify us to receive the citation: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

Stores and Business Houses Here Close Friday & Saturday

Industrial Plants Also To Provide Time Off for Employees

Employees of the various industrial plants, stores, offices and business establishments in and around Plymouth will have rest and recreation periods ranging from one to three or four days during the Christmas season, a check-up here the first of the week indicated.

All the stores and business houses, with the possible exception of drug stores and filling stations, will be closed Friday and Saturday, which, with the regular Sunday holiday, will give them three days. The bank and ABC stores in the county will likewise be closed Friday and Saturday.

The office of the draft board will be closed only one day, Christmas, reopening Saturday morning. It is not known exactly what holiday will be observed by the rationing board, but it is expected to be closed Friday and Saturday.

The Plymouth Box and Panel Company will close down Thursday afternoon for the remainder of the week, according to E. F. Still, president. Miss Ethel Arps, manager of the local plant of the American Fork & Hoe Company, said that unit would close at 5:30 Wednesday for the remainder of the week.

The plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company will shut down for the periodic overhaul of machinery and equipment at 4 p. m. Thursday, and the shutdown will continue until Saturday of the following week, January 2, although it was explained that all the personnel of the plant would be engaged in repair work beginning Saturday morning of this week. Only the minimum skeleton crew will be kept on duty Christmas day. Although repair work will begin Saturday morning, production will not be resumed until the following Saturday, January 2. Each employee of the plant will be given a Christmas present consisting of a safety calendar, box of Whitman's candy and a fruit cake. These will be distributed as each employee works his last shift before the shutdown.

Urge All Savers of Pennies To Return Them to Circulation

Shortage of 1-Cent Pieces Reported by Banks in This Section

The much-maligned but often necessary penny is now coming into its own, as the result of a shortage which has developed in recent weeks. The bank here was short of the copper changemakers early this week, and was "rationing" them out to merchants only 50 to 100 at a time.

Sales and war taxes have made the penny a necessary part of almost every transaction in retail establishments, and the shortage may reach serious proportions unless those available are kept in circulation. Many persons have "hoards" of the coppers, as they are favorites for piggy banks and other savings containers. Too, a great many find their way into slot machines of the chewing gum and weighing varieties.

Banks in some of the near-by towns have been running advertisements asking people who have been saving pennies to turn them back into circulation. Mr. Beam said he would appreciate it if those who have pennies in this section would bring them to the bank and exchange them for currency of larger denomination. There are said to be plenty of the pennies, but a great many of them have been taken out of circulation for one reason or another, hence the sudden shortage.

It is understood that the new penny will be made of different material, possibly steel with a thin coating of copper. It is noticeable that recently minted nickels have a "ring" which was not present in the old nickels, and it now seems likely the penny, too, will undergo a change as a result of the copper shortage caused by the war.