

There was no session of recorder's court this week. The few cases on the docket were all continuances from previous sessions, and it was decided not to hold a session before next Tuesday.

Harry Gurkin, fireman first class, of the United States Naval Reserve, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Gurkin, here the first of this week. He returned to Norfolk Tuesday night. For the past six months he has been on duty in Newfoundland.

Every Monday is War Bond Day at the Plymouth Theatre, patrons are reminded. Starting about a month ago, the management agreed to use the entire box office receipts each Monday for the purchase of War Bonds. Movie-goers are urged to remember this in making plans to attend shows at the local theatre.

The new TT gasoline coupon, which will replace the present T coupon, becomes valid July 1st. The old-type T-coupon will be invalid after July 25, truck owners are advised. The OPA expects the change in coupons will help take up the "slack" mileage and remove potential sources of black market gasoline.

Mrs. William Long, of Mackeys, has been notified that her husband, Private William Long, of the U. S. Army, has arrived safely at an Army post somewhere in the Pacific area. Private Long entered the service last December and received his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Ga.

Pfc. Norman Seldenridge, of Fort Jackson, S. C., has been spending this week here with relatives and friends. He entered the Army in January and has been training with a mechanized cavalry outfit at Fort Jackson since that time.

Douglas Carter, local young man who was driver of a car which fatally injured a colored man near Greensboro several weeks ago, was absolved of blame for the accident by the Guilford County grand jury Tuesday of this week, when it declined to return a true bill against him.

The new shoe ration stamp, No. 18 in War Ration Book No. 1 became valid Wednesday, June 16, and will be good until October 31.

Pfc. Thomas G. Gardner has been visiting relatives and friends here this week. He will leave the latter part of the week for Fort Jackson, S. C., where he has been stationed since entering the Army several months ago.

Wool in the hands of farmers, sale of which has been prohibited for some time, was released this week and may now be sold by producers to anyone, County Agent W. V. Hays said yesterday. A number of county farmers have already disposed of their spring shearings since the release order was issued.

The combination of a good crop and recent hot weather has created an urgent demand for more potato pickers in Tyrrell County, according to the local employment office. For information regarding hiring, wages and transportation, those interested are urged to call at the employment office in the basement of the courthouse here at once.

Short Session Court In July Is Forecast

Local lawyers were to meet this week to set the civil calendar for the July term of Washington County Superior Court, which will convene on July 12, with Judge J. Walter Bone, of Nashville, scheduled to preside. It is not believed there will be many civil cases to be tried at this session. There are some old cases on the calendar which have been hanging fire for many months, but it is problematical that they will be disposed of, and very few new actions have been instituted in recent months.

The court has a number of cases on the criminal docket. There is one murder case, several will be tried for breaking and entering, and there are a few other miscellaneous matters to be cleared up. It is expected that the July session will be a very brief one, barring unexpected developments.

County Club Women To Work One Day In Potato Fields of Section Next Week

Approximately 25 young women of Plymouth have indicated their willingness to help relieve the shortage of help in the potato fields of this section by putting in at least one day of picking up potatoes next week. The matter was taken up by the Junior Woman's Club here, and the group will leave at 7 o'clock Wednesday morning of next week, according to present plans, to put in a day in the fields.

County home demonstration members have also indicated their willingness to help. It is understood that members of the Swain club, from the Westover section, are planning to put in

Young Naval Flier Who Crashed Here Last July Killed in Accident May 14th

Ensign Robert L. Wist, the young Naval aviator who parachuted to safety when his airplane crashed near here late in July of last year, was killed on May 14th, this year, when the Naval plane on which he was a passenger crashed while on a routine flight, it was learned here this week.

J. Roy Manning, jr., local young man, who had been corresponding with Ensign Wist, received a letter from the Naval flier's wife this week informing him of the accident. Mrs. Wist said her husband was killed instantly in the crash, which occurred somewhere in Florida. He was not piloting the ship at the time, but had simply gone along

to get in some hours of night flying, she said.

It will be recalled that Ensign Wist "bailed out" of his plane when it became unmanageable over Plymouth during a sudden electrical and windstorm last July. He landed in the Roanoke River swamp near Warren Neck Creek and was not located until 10 or 12 hours later. His airplane crashed on the farm of W. H. Gurkin about two miles south of here.

Following his rescue by R. S. and Van B. Martin, Ensign Wist spent the night at the home of J. R. Manning here. He and Roy Manning, jr., became friends and corresponded with each other until the fatal accident last month.

Prices Good For 3 Carloads Lambs

Although complete returns on the lamb sale Tuesday of last week have not been received, County Agent W. V. Hays received a telegram yesterday stating that prices were good for the three carloads shipped from here to New Jersey.

In the telegram, it was reported that the following prices prevailed at the sale: Blues, 17.25; Blue Bucks, 16.25; Reds, 16.50; Red Bucks, 15.50; Yellows, 14.50; Yellow Bucks, 13.50; and No. 4's were quoted at 12 cents per pound.

Mr. Hays said most of the lambs shipped from here graded blues and reds, with a very few yellows.

23 Colored Men Left Today for Possible Service With Army

26 Originally Called, But Three Changes Made at Last Minute

Notices were sent out 10 days ago for 26 colored men to report to the local draft board this morning at 10 o'clock, when they boarded a special bus for Fort Bragg for examinations and possible induction into the various branches of the armed services. A few transfers were effected and other last-minute changes made, reducing the number which actually left this morning to 23.

The number sent away this morning represents only a fraction of the call for the month, but it was all the local board could get ready to answer the summons. Calls have already been received for both white and colored to leave in July, but the board will not be able to fill either of them, it was said.

For the first time since draft calls have been issued to the local board, Plymouth was not called on today to furnish most of those going to camp. Roper came first this time, with 10 summoned; Plymouth was second, with 7; Creswell third, with 6; while Mackeys was called on for the other three.

The 26 men to whom summons were recently sent are as follows: From Roper: Jack Johnson Moore, Luther Augustus Grimes, Jasper Everett, Otis Nixon, Anthony Crawford, Jr., George Washington Norman, James Earl Fuller, Theodore Roosevelt Chesson, Robert Lloyd Green, and Randolph Woods.

From Plymouth: James Whitley, William Henry Thomas, Wallace Lee Skinner, Daniel Hoggard, John Downing, Stewart Oneal Bowser, and William Alexander Gee.

From Creswell: Louis Leonard Leary, Joseph Bolton, Leroy Wynn, Clifton Jones, George Dallas Jones, and Roy Blount.

From Mackeys: Henry Everett, Jr., Herman Lee Wilkins, and Johnnie Thomas.

Work Hunters Must Get Certificate From Employment Office

Statement of Availability Is Necessary To Apply for Jobs Elsewhere

A warning that workers in the Washington County area planning to get jobs elsewhere will not be hired without a statement of availability from the local office of the United States Employment Service was issued today by R. T. McKeithan, manager of the Washington office of the USES, in discussing the new employment stabilization plan covering Region IV which includes North Carolina.

Mr. McKeithan called attention to provisions of the Region IV plan, developed by representatives of labor and management, which require that all workers whose most recent employment was in an essential activity must obtain a statement of availability from their present employer or the United States Employment Service before seeking other employment. He added that workers in activities other than essential do not need statements of availability unless they are planning to seek jobs outside the area.

The plan, which went into effect on May 15, places restrictions on inter-area migration and on hiring in order that workers will be provided where needed to do war production and essential civilian work. It is based upon the War Manpower's Commission regulations issued under President Roosevelt's "Hold-the-Line" Order stabilizing wages, prices, and employment, and the War Manpower Commission's national policy on Employment Stabilization.

"Workers in activities not designated as essential may be hired by employers engaged in essential activities without restrictions, provided they work in the area where they are hired," McKeithan explained.

"When a worker desires to quit or be transferred under the conditions outlined in the plan, he shall notify his employer of that fact and give his reasons. If the employer fails to issue a statement of availability, the worker may apply to the local United States Employment Service office, which will investigate and decide if the statement is to be issued. Either employer or worker may appeal this decision to the area appeals panel. Further appeals also may be taken."

Mr. McKeithan emphasized that a worker in an essential industry may obtain a statement of availability, if he:

Is discharged by his last employer; Is laid off for an indefinite period or for a period of seven days or more; Can establish that his present employment does not utilize him at his highest skill or that he is not being employed full time.

Has compelling personal reasons for wishing to change employment.

Mr. McKeithan also said that an area appeals panel will be established here in the near future. C. M. Taylor will serve as the non-voting chairman of the appeals panel, which will be composed of an equal number of representatives of management and labor.

Respite From Draft Is Seen for Fathers

Induction of fathers into the armed forces has been delayed, it was indicated by spokesmen for the National Selective Service System this week, one report stating that they will not be called before October or November. The new ruling means that few draftees will leave this county in the near future, for the manpower for the draft in this county has been just about exhausted for upwards of a month or more.

There is some talk about denying deferment to certain groups, but even then hardly more than one out of six fathers in the classifications in this county will likely be called before the latter part of the year, if the Selective Service spokesmen are correct in their statements this week.

County Nears Goal In War Bond Sales For Month of June

Over \$13,000 of "E" Bonds Sold Up To Today: Quota Is \$22,343

Washington County is gradually closing in on its goal of \$22,343 in War Bond sales for the month of June. Sales of "E" bonds at the local bank and post office amounted to \$18,475, maturity value, or \$13,856.25 issue price, up to today. Bond quotas are assigned on the issue-price basis, which means that the county is only \$8,466.75 short of its June goal today. In addition to the series "E" bonds sold so far this month, over \$7,000 worth of series "F" bonds have been disposed of, and these will be credited against a 50 per cent increase of the regular quota announced this week by Charles H. Robertson, state administrator of the War Savings Staff.

Administrator Robertson announced that all city and county chairmen are being asked to increase their sale of bonds for June by one-half or more of the regular "E" bond quota previously set for June.

The purpose of this increase, he explained, is to help meet the shortage in the national goal of 12 billion dollars by sales of "E", "F", and "G" bonds for the fiscal year set by President Roosevelt last June. This goal is now short by 337 million dollars, and North Carolina is expected to sell during June approximately five and one-half millions in bonds, including all types, in addition to the total quota of "E" bonds originally set for the state.

Last December the War Savings staffs of the various states were relieved of the responsibility of selling "F" and "G" bonds, but for the month of June, the local chairmen are expected to push the sale of "F" and "G" as well as "E" bonds in order to help make up for the 337 million shortage in the year's total sales. Administrator Robertson pointed out.

Application Blanks For Fuel Oil Mailed Out Here This Week

New Allotments Expected To Be About Same as For Last Year

Fuel-oil application blanks are being mailed out this week by the local rationing board to all persons in the county who use oil for heating their homes and places of business. The blanks are being sent to all those who had fuel-oil allotments last season.

Those who have moved since last winter should not fill out the blank sent them, but should apply to the board, preferably by mail, for a new application. The applications being mailed out are for those who will use oil to heat the same premises they did last year.

Consumers are urged to complete the blanks and return them at once to the local board. Allotments will then be figured up and coupons mailed to them immediately.

While the coupons may be used now to fill fuel-oil tanks, the oil should not be used before September 1st, as the allotments being made for next winter are not supposed to be used until after that date.

In general, it is expected that fuel-oil allotments for heating purposes will be about the same as last year, so far as homes are concerned. Those who have used oil burners in the past for heating their stores or business establishments are being advised to convert to heating equipment using other fuel. So far, they have not been ordered to convert, but rationing officials say that in the event of a serious shortage, the oil allotments used in business establishments will be first to be cut.

Local Merchants To Meet Monday

Members of the Plymouth Merchants Association will hold their June meeting next Monday afternoon at 2:30 in the municipal offices here, it was announced today by H. H. Allen, president. Monday night of this week was the time originally scheduled for the meeting, but it was called off on account of the postponed meeting of the town council at the same time and place.

It is understood that the principal business for consideration for the merchants is the matter of closing for July 4th. Independence Day comes on Sunday this year, and it is presumed that Monday, July 5th, will be observed as a holiday. Last year the Fourth came on Saturday, but merchants here postponed observance of the holiday then until Monday, the 6th.

Mayor and Council Members Sworn in At Meeting Monday

All Town Employees Are Re-elected For Ensuing Two-Year Period

The Town Council of Plymouth, including the mayor, was sworn in at a postponed meeting Monday night. The meeting was supposed to have been held Monday of last week, but due to the absence of Mayor Campbell, it was postponed until this week. J. T. McNair, justice of the peace, swore in the new council, and it entered immediately upon its duties.

Those taking the oaths of office were as follows: Mayor, B. G. Campbell; J. Roy Manning and H. E. Harrison, councilmen from the first ward; James W. Norman and W. A. Roebuck, councilmen from the second ward; and E. E. Harrell and G. R. Leggett, for the third ward.

After taking the oaths of office, members of the council perfected the town's governmental set-up by re-electing all present officers for a period of two years. The town employees re-elected are as follows:

Chief of police and tax collector, P. W. Brown; night patrolman, G. F. Coburn and Paul Basnight; and city clerk, Moye W. Sprull.

Messrs. Harrison and Roebuck are new members of the council. The mayor and all other members have had from two to ten or fifteen years' experience in their work.

After being sworn in and completing the municipal organization for the ensuing two years, a routine business session was held.

A committee to have the water tank painted was appointed as follows: Mayor B. G. Campbell, Councilmen E. E. Harrell and G. R. Leggett and Chief of Police P. W. Brown.

Former Slave, Said 112 Years Old, Died In County Last Week

"Aunt" Annie Norman Last Link With Pre-Civil War Days

By MARY COTTEN DAVENPORT
Mackeys.—Washington County's last living link with the ante bellum days was severed last Wednesday when "Aunt" Annie Norman answered the call and went to join her "Old Marster" and her fellow slaves who have long since passed into the Great Beyond.

According to her statement and her knowledge of contemporary people and events, Auna Anne was 112 years old. When questioned about her age she would produce from her rusty old handbag a time-yellowed scrap of paper torn from an account book. On it was written in a fine Spencerian hand by some white friend long dead the date, March 10, 1831.

"Yas'm," Aunt Anne would shake her grizzled head in pleased confirmation, "Dat's de day I was born." When questioned about her childhood she said that she was born a slave, on the plantation of Mr. Bob Davis near Creswell. "Marse Bob," she said, "had so much mercy on the people about their taxes that he himself was sold out." Major Charles Louis Latham, of Plymouth, bought some of the Davis slaves, among them Aunt Anne. She helped look after the children and was so faithful that the first Mrs. Latham became greatly attached to her and asked her husband in her last illness

(See FORMER SLAVE, Page 6)

Surprise Blackout Is Success Locally

Without advance warning, a test blackout was called throughout this section at 9:50 Tuesday night, lasting about 30 or 40 minutes. The signals followed the pattern outlined in a test here several months ago, and Chief Air Raid Warden P. W. Brown said he was very agreeably surprised with the response by the local people.

Mr. Brown said the test was met here just about 100 per cent. All of the wardens except one were rounded up and reported in when the first "yellow" signal was flashed. The one exception was out of town at the time. The first "blue" signal was sounded by the siren at 9:50, followed at about 10-minute intervals by the "red", second "blue", and then the "all-clear" was signalled by turning on the street lights.

A few house lights were left on by householders who were not at home, but in these cases wardens managed to get them turned off without having to do any damage.

Local Baptist Church Is Without Speaker Sunday

Due to inability to secure a minister in time, there will be no preaching service at the Baptist church Sunday, it was announced by church officials today. Sunday school, however, will be held at the usual time.

Labor Shortage Topic At Special Committee Meeting Here Friday

No Applications Before August 1

Those persons who failed to secure and file their applications for War Ration Book No. 3 before June 10 will not be able to get an application blank now before August 1, it was learned at the office of the local War Price and Rationing Board this week.

Postal authorities have been instructed to return unused applications to the local boards throughout the country, and the latter have been directed to place these applications under lock and key, as they are not to be distributed before the first of August.

Detailed information as to handling late applications will be furnished to the rationing boards before August 1, it was stated by the state OPA office. Provision will be made for every person to secure War Ration Book No. 3 before the time to put it into use, it was stated.

Will Continue Price Support for Potatoes Throughout Season

Not Necessary for Growers To Dig Prematurely, Official Says

U. S. Department of Agriculture support prices on Irish potatoes will be continued in North Carolina throughout the entire marketing season and it is not necessary for the growers to dig potatoes prematurely in order to obtain prices at the support level, according to H. A. Patten, state AAA executive assistant.

The Department announced earlier this year that it would support the 1943 crop of Irish potatoes at \$2.25 per 100 pounds for No. 1 potatoes in carload lots. Potatoes grading at least 85 per cent No. 1 will be supported at \$2.15 per hundred, and U. S. Commercial will be supported at \$2.05 per hundred. The support price for potatoes grading No. 2 or U. S. No. 1 size B will be supported at \$1.35 per 100 pounds. The ceiling price at which growers may sell potatoes in North Carolina is \$2.70 per hundred.

"It is reported in several areas that some producers are speeding digging operations in order to receive higher prices, even though the potatoes they are marketing are unusually small," Patten said. "Since arrangements for government buying will begin as soon as prices go below the support levels, many producers will find they can obtain a larger net return for their potatoes by marketing them a little later in the season."

In addition to the price supports, growers this year will receive a special payment from the AAA of 50 cents per bushel, times the county's normal yield, on all potatoes produced on acres between 90 and 110 per cent of individual farm goals, provided the farm has a goal of at least two acres.

O. M. Spurlin New Manager Virginia Dare Beauty Shop

O. M. Spurlin, of Greensboro, on Monday became manager of the Virginia Dare Beauty Salon here.

Mr. Spurlin is considered a very fine hair stylist. He has been hair stylist in beauty shops at Southern Pines, in Florida and in other places and comes to Plymouth highly recommended.

Reports From All Sections of County Indicate Condition of Field Crops Good

Crop prospects at this time in Washington County are declared to be very good. While there is much grass in most of the fields, due to heavy rains recently, during the past few days farmers have been busy eliminating this threat.

According to County Agent W. V. Hays, the cotton crop, as a whole, has the best prospects of any he has ever seen. Peanuts were a little late in being planted, but those that are up are looking good. Some farmers were still planting peanuts this week, although it is considered very late.

Tobacco is another crop that is looking good, the county agent said. However, there is more sun scald than usual in some localities. Corn was said to be

500 More Workers Needed in Potato Fields of Section

Large Part of Crop May Be Lost in Next 5 Weeks If Labor Not Secured

Ways and means of securing approximately 500 extra hands to assist in the harvesting of the Irish potato crop in this section was the problem considered at a meeting of the Washington County Labor Advisory Committee in the Agriculture Building here last Friday night.

This section is faced with a critical shortage of manpower during the next five weeks, when approximately 4,700 acres of Irish potatoes in this section must be harvested. If sufficient labor is not secured during this period, producers face the prospect of losing a large part of their crop, which is said to be of bumper proportions.

Business and professional men in the towns, organizations of young boys and girls, and ladies are being asked to volunteer to help in picking up and grading the potatoes. Several groups of white ladies have indicated they would go to the potato fields on designated days to assist in the work. They are not asked to work for nothing, as they will be paid the established piece-work scale now prevailing on potato farms. The rate of pay is 13 cents per 100 pounds for picking up potatoes behind plows, and 15 cents per 100 pounds for picking them up behind diggers.

In former years, most of this work has been done by colored people, both men and women. This year it has been almost impossible to secure such help. Many who are not working elsewhere have refused to do this work, although the rate of pay is high. One colored woman is reported to have made over \$9 for about 10 hours' work. The yield is high, which means that it doesn't take long to pick up 100 pounds.

At the meeting Friday night, it was decided to call on Boy Scouts, girls' organizations, civic and business associations and ask their help, as a patriotic undertaking, in saving the current crop. Colored ministers were also requested to use their influence in helping to obtain labor.

It was stated that some merchants in Columbia were closing their stores and taking clerks and other employees into the fields with them. Merchants here may be requested to (See LABOR SHORTAGE, Page 6)

Big Crowd Masons At District Meet

The Rev. C. K. Proctor, superintendent of the Oxford Orphanage, was principal speaker at the district meeting of Masons held here yesterday afternoon. Mr. Proctor made a very interesting address and was heard by a large delegation of Masons from the local and other lodges of the district. The State Grand Master was unable to be present and designated Mr. Proctor to represent the grand lodge officials at the meeting.

H. H. McLean, district deputy grand master, presided over the sessions which began at 4 o'clock in the hall of Perseverance Lodge, No. 59, here. Reports were heard from four of the seven lodges of the district which had delegations at the meeting. There also were visiting delegations from the lodges at Williamston and Farmville, which are not in this Masonic district.

Following the general sessions in the lodge room, a barbecue supper was served to all those present in the Christian Church Annex.