



VOLUME LIV—NUMBER 27

Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Thursday, July 8, 1943

ESTABLISHED 1889

Sergeant Stanford N. Mizelle, former employee of the Plymouth Theatre here, was recently transferred from an air field near Philadelphia to some point overseas, according to word received here this week. He is in the Army Air Corps.

Technical Corporal D. Leroy Bateman, of Fort Jackson, S. C., is spending a few days here with his wife and parents. He was promoted from private to corporal technician in a mechanized cavalry outfit there about three weeks ago. The son of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Bateman here, he entered the service in January of this year.

John W. Darden, R. H. Lucas, Edward L. Owens and H. H. McLean attended a district meeting of Masons in Lewiston last Thursday. Mr. McLean was one of three district deputy grand masters present.

The special town dog tax became due July 1. Chief of Police P. W. Brown reminds local dog owners. Unless the tax is paid in the immediate future, unlicensed dogs are subject to be impounded and disposed of by town authorities. The rate of tax is \$1 for male dogs and \$2 for females.

Two Plymouth young men were among a group of privates promoted to the grade of corporal technician at Fort Jackson, S. C., recently. They were Mahlon S. Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Moore, and Robert W. Bowen, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bowen. Both of them entered the service in January.

Bruce Etheridge, director of the Department of Conservation and Development, and Sheriff Victor Meekins, of Dare County, were visitors here for a short while Tuesday night. They were on their way to Raleigh and stopped over here to pick up W. Roy Hampton, member of the Board of Conservation and Development, who accompanied them to the Capital City.

Leon A. Davis, formerly of Dardens, is the new manager of the Pender Store here. He succeeds J. F. Rogers, who was transferred recently from the local store to Farmville.

Youths in Washington County are reminded by the local draft board to register for selective service immediately upon reaching the age of 18 years. Most youngsters understand that they are required to register then, but board officials said there might be a few who do not. If so, they are advised to register at the office here just as soon as possible.

The Rev. Paul B. Nickens, former pastor of the local Baptist church, recently completed a course of indoctrination at Harvard University and was commissioned a first lieutenant in the Chaplains Corps of the United States Army. Lieutenant Nickens left here about two years ago for Murfreesboro and went from there into the Army recently. He visited friends here Tuesday.

W. A. Roebuck, Elmer Browning and Harold Whitley will leave Sunday to attend the All-Star baseball game in Philadelphia Tuesday of next week. Chief of Police P. W. Brown secured tickets for them through the chief of the Philadelphia police department, who is a native of New Bern.

Sergeant William S. Jordan, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Jordan, of Creswell, is now in the New Guinea area of the South Pacific battle zone, it was learned this week. He is attached to a Signal Corps unit.

**Potato Season Is Drawing To Close**

The Irish potato harvesting season is drawing to a close in this section, although shipments will continue for another week or so. Producers for the most part hardly know where they stand. The labor shortage kept the crop in the ground longer than usual, but resulted in better yields, it is said.

Reports indicate that most of the No. 2s are being left in the fields. Government buying has maintained the price for No. 1s somewhere around the \$2.25 "floor" established sometime ago. It is expected that the labor situation, coupled with the sudden break in the market, may tend to reduce the acreage planted next season.

**D. B. Kuhe New Manager Pulp Plant As E. L. Walker Returns to Wisconsin**

D. B. Kuhe this week became resident manager of the North Carolina Pulp Company, when E. L. Walker, who has been serving in that capacity for the past several years, returned to his home in Wauwatosa, Wis. Mr. Walker, a vice president of the Kleckhefer Container Company, had been living at Wauwatosa in semi-retirement when he came to Plymouth to succeed George M. Snyder as head of the local plant.

**Upwards of 800 Use-Tax Stamps Sold At Plymouth Post Office Up To Today**

There was a rush sale of Federal use-tax stamps at the local post office last week-end, it was stated by Postmaster John W. Warden. The sale of stamps, costing \$5 each, and supposed to be on every type of motor vehicle by July 1, started off very slowly, and last Thursday, only about 200 had been sold, against 900 last year. However, Mr. Warden said yesterday afternoon that sales now were around the 700 to 800 mark, and a few stragglers continue to buy them each day.

In some localities, it is understood that officers have already begun checking cars to see that they have the \$5 stamps. That is not true in this section, but enforcement is likely to be ordered at any time. When apprehended, it is understood violators have been fined.

**Start Repairs To County Schools**

Repair work has been started on several county school buildings, and County Superintendent H. H. McLean said yesterday that he hoped to have all of them in good shape in time for the opening of the term next fall.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in securing the needed materials. Mr. McLean said that he had finally made arrangements to get much of the needed lumber and roofing materials, and that the work would be pushed as rapidly as possible.

The superintendent also stated that coal stoves, bought to replace wood burners in some of the schools, had been shipped. It was found almost impossible to secure wood for fuel last winter in some localities.

**13,000 Pounds Wool Bring Owners \$5,500 At Sale Held Here**

140 Producers From Seven Counties Take Part in Sale Yesterday

A very successful wool sale was held here yesterday, with producers from seven counties pooling their wool and selling it to a representative of the Chatham Manufacturing Company, of Elkin. A total of 140 producers had wool here for the sale; 12,967 pounds being sold for a total of \$5,500.42.

One lot of wool came from as far away as Wake County. Hyde County producers led in volume at the sale, with 4,288 pounds from there being offered. Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, Gates and Beaufort were the other counties represented.

E. M. Hodel, representing the Chatham interests, was the buyer. Two representatives of the animal husbandry department at State College, Raleigh, also attended the sale. They were L. I. Case, head of the department, and J. E. Foster.

The price range for wool was from a low of 35 cents a pound to a high of 53 cents. Most of the wool sold at 40 cents or better. The sale was held here under the direction of County Agent W. V. Hays and his office.

**Camille Burgess Finishes Motor Transport Course**

A place behind the wheel of an army vehicle is the job ahead for Auxiliary Camille Burgess, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Burgess, of Plymouth, who was graduated last week from the Motor Transport School of the Second WAC Training Center at Daytona Beach, Fla.

She was one of 34 members of the graduating class which had six weeks training in army methods of driving. The WACs in Motor Transport learn by handling the army vehicles—jeeps, trucks and staff cars. They learn safety rules, care of vehicles, convoy driving and maintenance work.

Graduates of the Motor Transport school will replace soldiers who are driving at army posts throughout the country.

**Mr. Walker was quite active in the civic and social life of the community, and both he and Mrs. Walker made many friends during their stay here who regret to see them leave.**

Mr. Walker has been with the North Carolina Pulp Company since last November. He came here from the Union Bag & Paper Company, at Savannah, Ga., and he was formerly engaged in pulp manufacture at Panama City, Fla.

It is considered possible that fewer stamps will be sold this year than last, as it is known that some auto drivers have put up their cars "for the duration" rather than go through all the procedure necessary to secure gasoline and tires under the rationing program now in effect.

The stamps are required on all types of motor vehicles, including passenger cars, trucks, and motorcycles. An adequate supply is available at the post office here, and car owners are advised to buy them now to avoid possible trouble later.

**Number Registrants Available for Draft Quotas Is Dwindling**

Eleven Colored Men Sent To Fort Bragg Tuesday Of This Week

Things are rather quiet around the office of the Washington County Selective Board these days. True, a few men are being readied to answer the calls for inductees, but the number that will respond will be only a small percentage of the size of the quotas for the county.

Last month, Washington County sent only six white men to Fort Bragg, the smallest number to answer a call from here in nearly two years. They left on June 8th, and only one man was accepted out of the lot. The size of the call was not announced by draft officials, but it is known that a much larger number of men were called for than could be sent by the board.

Then on Thursday, June 17, the June colored contingent, 23 men, left for Fort Bragg, and only 5 of them "stuck." This number, too, was considerably less than the quota for the month.

The latest group to leave was a contingent of 11 colored men, who went to Fort Bragg Tuesday of this week. So far, no report has been received as to the number kept by the Army. Officials said they had received a call for white men to leave the latter part of July, but there is little prospect of sending much more than a token contingent, as the available supply of single men and married men without children has just about been exhausted. There are a few new registrants each month, as youths reach the age of 18.

Calls have already been received by the local board for both white and colored selectees to report during August. However, there is little the local board can do toward filling the calls except to send those arriving at the age of 18 and the few whose temporary deferments are running out.

**Fuel-Oil Allotments To Be Studied Soon By Rationing Panel**

Consumers Advised To Fill Out Blanks and Return Them Immediately

Mrs. Sabrie W. Reid, secretary to the local rationing board, yesterday advised all those who have received application blanks for fuel oil for use in heating next winter to fill them out and return them to the office here immediately. In most cases there is little to be done except write in "same" and sign the application, as the necessary information is on file in the office, except in cases where families have moved to new homes.

As soon as all or most of the applications are received by the board, the fuel-oil panel will pass on them and issue the allotments, it was said. Those who delay filling in the blanks and returning them to the office of the board may be "left out in the cold," as it will be some time before such applications will again be considered.

Mrs. Reid is still seeking volunteers to help in working out the allotments. Those who are willing to help are asked to give their names to some of those in the rationing board office.

**Truck Owners Asked To Call for TT Gas Tickets**

Truck owners in the county who have not called at the office of the rationing board here for their TT gasoline tickets are asked to do so at once. These tickets were issued in exchange for T tickets, which became invalid July 1st.

Many truckers have not called for the new gasoline ration books, it was said, and they are in the way at the rationing board office.

**Hubert L. Britton, of Plymouth, Is Given DFC and Air Medal**

Former Employee of Box & Panel Company Now in South Pacific

Staff Sergeant Hubert L. Britton, formerly of Plymouth, but now of the United States Army Air Forces, was recently awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster. He has been stationed in New Guinea since early this year. Before entering the Army in April of last year, Sergeant Britton was employed here at the plant of the Plymouth Box and Panel Company.

The news that he had been awarded the triple decoration did not state the exploits for which the awards were made. The Distinguished Flying Cross is awarded to a person who, while serving with the Air Corps of the Army of the United States, has distinguished himself by "heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight." The emblem is bronze in the form of a cross, pattee on which is superimposed a four-blade propeller. On the reverse side are inscribed the name and rank of the recipient. The cross is suspended by a bar from a moire ribbon with stripes of red, white and blue.

The Air Medal is awarded to members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard for "meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight." With the exception of the Distinguished Flying Cross, this is the only specific decoration for feats of heroism and meritorious service in the air. It is provided that not more than one Air Medal shall be awarded to any one person, but for succeeding meritorious achievement justifying additional award an oak leaf cluster is given to be worn with the medal.

Sergeant Britton entered the Air Corps in April, 1942, and received his training as an aerial gunner at Harlingen Aerial Gunnery School, Harlingen, Texas. In September of last year he was sent to Hawaii and later to Australia; moving on to New Guinea early this year.

**Labor Utilization To Be Considered By County Group**

Hoped "Work or Fight" Ultimatum Can Be Delivered Loafers

It is expected that a meeting will be held tonight to further the movement to utilize all manpower productively on a full-time basis in this county. Other counties throughout the state held similar meetings last Monday in response to a proclamation by Governor Broughton, but Representative Ben A. Sumner, appointed labor chairman for Washington County, was out of town the latter part of last week, due to the death of his brother, and he was unable to complete arrangements for holding the meeting then.

Mr. Sumner said today that he planned to call together all town and county officials, law-enforcement agencies, employment office representatives, and interested industrial leaders, rather than hold a general mass meeting. It is believed that plans can be worked out to have a more strict enforcement of vagrancy statutes, shifting available labor as it is needed in various parts of the county, and other such steps.

While there is little surplus labor available in this section, it is hoped that some method can be worked to utilize the productivity of every person. There is still too much "loafing," in the opinion of many observers, especially on the part of those who will work only a few days each week. The state government has indicated that it will lend its efforts to eliminating such abuses as exist; but the cooperation of all local governmental agencies and law enforcement authorities is needed, as well as that of employers and leaders of both the white and colored races.

It is to set up some sort of organization to secure the cooperation of the entire section that the meeting is being called. Vagrancy, absenteeism and like ills will be discussed, with the hope that the ultimatum "work or fight" may be directed to everyone not making his full contribution of work toward the war effort.

**Mackey's Young Man Is Promoted To Corporal**

William C. Riddick, 21, son of C. G. Riddick, of Mackeys, was recently promoted to the grade of corporal at the Blytheville, Ark., Air Field, where he is clerk at base operations, it was learned from an Army news release this week.

Corporal Riddick was inducted into the army forces July 28th, last year. In civilian life he was employed as chemical tester for the North Carolina Pulp Company plant in Plymouth.

**Fourth of July Week-End Very Quiet In County; Few Arrests, No Accidents**

The Fourth of July week-end passed very quietly in the county, according to all reports. There were no reports of any drownings or serious automobile accidents, and comparatively few arrests were made by town and county law enforcement officials. Practically all business houses were closed Monday, with the proprietors and clerks enjoying the day of rest, for the most part, either at home or at nearby places of entertainment.

The gasoline shortage ruled out long trips, but a few folk journeyed to Nags Head and Virginia Beach, while others caught

up with work in their "Victory Gardens." Several parties turned out for fishing on near-by creeks, and some went down to Lake Phelps, where catches of bass and perch were reported to be very good. The pulp mill was closed down this week for the periodic inspection and repair of machinery, and a number of workmen are enjoying their vacation at this time.

This is a short week for local merchants and their clerks, as the stores observed their usual half holiday Wednesday afternoon, in addition to being closed Monday.

**July Term County Superior Court To Begin Here Monday**

Judge Walter Bone To Preside; One Murder Case On Docket

The July term of Washington County Superior Court will begin Monday morning, at 10 o'clock, with Judge Walter J. Bone, of Nashville, the resident judge, scheduled to preside. Ten criminal cases were on the docket up to today, and it was expected that several would be added, as a special session of recorder's court is being held and some of the defendants are likely to be bound over to the "high court" for final disposition.

Members of the local bar indicated yesterday that no civil cases would be called at the term next week, although it is supposed to hear both criminal and civil actions.

Included in the criminal cases to come before the court next week is one charging murder against James Alton Brown, Plymouth colored man, who is alleged to have stabbed Mary Jane Vaughn, also colored, to death here in February.

Cases placed on the docket prior to today are as follows: Roy Blount, colored, charged with hit-and-run driving; this case was continued from the July term last year.

Mrs. N. C. Walters, white, of Plymouth; charged with careless and reckless driving; this case was continued from the January term of superior court.

Willie Jennette, colored, charged with theft; also continued from the January term.

Spencer Harris, colored, charged with non-support; this case was appealed from judgment of the recorder.

Preston Marshall, colored; assault with a deadly weapon; appealed from recorder's court.

Van Buren Martin, white, Plymouth; charged with theft; appealed from recorder's court.

James Alton Brown, colored, Plymouth; murder; bound over on probable cause.

Lodie Barnes, colored, assault with deadly weapon; appealed from recorder's court.

Gregory Norman, colored; theft; bound over by recorder.

Raymond Everett, colored; theft; bound over by recorder.

**Work of Observers At Fire Towers Is Praised by Army**

Captain Says Post at Scuppernon Among Best in Entire System

County Forest Warden Stuart F. Darden is in receipt of a letter from Captain De Witt M. Smith, of the Norfolk Air Defense Wing, praising watchers at the fire tower near Creswell for the work they are rendering to the Air Warning System.

This post, located at the prison camp about six miles west of Creswell, is known as the Scuppernon Fire Tower. It has been operation on a 24-hour daily basis since last October, with four persons working six-hour shifts each. The primary purpose of the tower, of course, is to observe forests in that section to keep down forest fires; but it is also serving as an air observation post to report of all types of aircraft observed in that vicinity.

Mrs. H. E. Clifton is chief observer. The other three observers are Mrs. W. W. White, Mrs. John Halsey and T. E. Furlough. That they are rendering a splendid service is shown by the text of the following letter to Mr. Darden from Captain Smith:

"After having visited the two Fire Towers of Creswell, North Carolina, and East Lake North Carolina, it has occurred to us that you would probably like to hear from us in regard to findings as to the type of service that these fire towers are rendering to the Army Air Warning System.

"We have had occasion to monitor

**War Bond Quota For July \$22,305**

Washington County's War Bond quota for the month is just about the same as it was for the month of June, H. E. Beam, county chairman of bond sales, said yesterday. The July quota has been set at \$22,305, while last month it was \$22,343.

Sales started off very well this month, Mr. Beam estimating that about \$5,000 or \$6,000 worth of series E bonds had been sold up to today. The local post office last Thursday, July 1, had a record day so far as number of bonds sold is concerned. Postmaster John W. Darden said he sold 56 \$25 bonds on the first day of the month, and yesterday he had completely sold out all bonds of smaller denomination on hand. However, a new supply had been ordered and was expected to arrive today.

Mr. Beam said that so far he had not been able to complete the county report for last month. Creswell reported the sale of more than \$1,000 worth of bonds, and Roper was still to be heard from. However, the Creswell report was more than sufficient for the county to pass its goal for June.

**Room Is Ransacked In Building Housing Colored School Here**

Superintendent Asks Help Of Patrons In Identifying Vandals

Another case of wanton vandalism was brought to light here this week, when County School Superintendent H. H. McLean discovered the colored school building here had been entered and considerable damage wrought. He is appealing for the aid of those interested in the welfare of the school, both white and colored, in bringing the miscreants to justice.

The vandals—it is believed there was more than one—gained entrance to the building through a window. Then they took a club and broke out a panel in the door to the home economics room, so they could reach in and unlock the door. Cooking utensils, books, some canned goods, coffee and other food items were scattered all over the floor and in the sink. The door to the pantry was broken open and its contents scattered some items were stolen, but for the most part it was a case of wanton destruction, for no apparent purpose.

Mr. McLean urges colored people who live in the vicinity of the school to help in locating the culprits and preventing a recurrence of the happening. He points out that there is no gain to anyone by such destruction; and the colored children themselves are the sufferers, since they are denied the use of that much material in their educational program.

It is practically impossible for school or police officials to prevent such happenings, unless watchmen are kept in the buildings at all times. Similar cases of vandalism have been reported in the last year or two at the white school building and gymnasium, and they constitute a hardship on both children and school authorities.

**Union Daily Vacation Bible School Is Planned Here From July 19th To 24th**

Tentative plans have been made for a Union Daily Vacation Bible School which is to be held July 19 through July 24. The Baptist, Christian, Methodist, and Episcopal churches of Plymouth will unite their efforts in this project.

Administrative staff and teaching personnel will be furnished jointly by the four churches. The Rev. O. L. Hardwick, pastor of the Methodist church, will act as superintendent of the Vacation Bible School.

**Two Hertford Men Are Held for Rape Of Girl From Here**

Probable Cause Found at Preliminary Hearing This Morning

Lloyd Chappell and Wayland White, prominent young white men from near Hertford, were ordered held without bond for superior court next week following a preliminary hearing before Recorder Edward L. Owens this morning on charges of criminal assault and rape brought by 15-year-old Goldie May Paul, of Plymouth. The alleged assault took place on a side road between Plymouth and Albemarle Beach last Sunday night around 9 or 10 o'clock.

At the hearing this morning, Miss Paul testified that she first met Chappell and White at a local drug store Sunday afternoon about 5:30. She and another girl got into White's car to "go to ride," first going to Dardens and later to Albemarle Beach.

They remained there until about 9 o'clock, according to Miss Paul's testimony, when White and Chappell agreed to bring her to her home in Plymouth. On the way, she charged the two young men drove the car off the main road and assaulted her in succession despite her efforts to fight them off.

They returned to the beach and then the boys brought the girl to her home in Plymouth and let her out. She told her mother about the happening, and the latter had her examined by Dr. A. Papineau later that night. Dr. Papineau was summoned as a witness, but did not testify at the hearing this morning.

County and town law officers were notified, the young girl furnishing a description of the car and the two young men. Sheriff J. K. Reid and another officer went to the beach, while Night Patrolman Paul Basnight and Highway Patrolman M. B. Stewart finally located the car at Juniper Lodge, near here, and arrested the men.

They were carried to the home of Miss Paul, and she identified them as her attackers. White broke away from the officers and escaped, while Chappell was placed in jail here. White returned the next morning and surrendered, and was also placed in jail pending the hearing today.

At the hearing this morning, Miss Paul told her story; and the prosecution also placed her mother, Sheriff Reid and a few character witnesses on the stand. The defendants did not call any witnesses, and there was little indication as to the line of defense to be used. However, it was learned from some of the officers that the young men admitted they had relations with the young girl but said it was with her consent.

Following the hearing, Recorder Owens held that probable cause had been shown, and he ordered that the defendants be returned to jail to await trial at the superior court session beginning next Monday.

Both of the accused young men are understood to be members of prominent families of the Hertford section. They were represented at the hearing by Attorneys Charles Wiedebeg, of Hertford; John White, of Edenton; and W. L. Whitley, of Plymouth. Hallett S. Ward, of Washington, has been employed as private prosecutor of the case, and directed presentation of the state's evidence at the hearing today.

**Sidney A. Ward Is Given Commission**

Sidney A. Ward, jr., former local attorney, graduated from an officer candidate school at Fort Custer, near Battle Creek, Mich., last Friday and received his commission as a second lieutenant in the Army of the United States. He will serve in the Provost Marshal General's Department.

Mr. Ward is the son of Mrs. Sidney A. Ward, sr., of Plymouth. Before entering the service early last fall, he served as solicitor of the county recorder's court and also was secretary to the Washington County Selective Service Board from the time it was set up until he went to the army. He was stationed at the reception center in Fort Bragg until several months ago, when he was assigned to the officer candidate school.

Present plans call for the use of the Plymouth High School building and grounds if permission is obtained from the proper authorities.

The school will be for the benefit of all denominations, and it is hoped that a large enrollment will be secured. There will be classes for children from 4 years old and upwards.

A special meeting of all workers in the Vacation Bible School is called tonight at 8 o'clock at the home of Mrs. A. L. Owens.