

TOWN TOPICS

THE ROANOKE BEACON

AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS



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The Rev. W. B. Gaither, of Creswell, community service member of the county war price and rationing board, states that he has asked Mrs. Everett, state information officer for the OPA, to speak at white schools in Creswell, Roper and Plymouth, in pledging the Washington County public to the home-front campaign.

Due to heavy last-minute influx of copy about the Third War Loan Campaign in Washington County, several articles on other subjects prepared for publication this week were necessarily left out. They will appear in a later issue. Necessarily for their omission is regretted, but the War Loan Drive takes preference over everything else in Washington County this week.

Carl L. Bailey, Jr., this week received his call to the Army. He will report to Fort Bragg Monday, September 27. He was inducted last spring while attending Wake Forest College and was transferred to the enlisted reserve to allow him to finish the college term.

Major I. N. Carr, of Atlanta, Ga., spent last week-end here with his brother, J. R. Carr, and family. Major Carr is in the Quartermaster Corps of the Army and is connected with the program of pre-induction training in colleges of seven southeastern states.

Several county farmers plan to begin digging peanuts this week, it was learned today. The crop is said to be fair by those who are beginning harvest operations, although the recent spell of dry weather has not done them any good, according to reports.

C. A. Wortham, manager of the A & P store here, and Mrs. Wortham are visiting relatives and friends in Henderson for a couple of weeks. J. A. Broom, of Greenville, is acting manager of the store while Mr. and Mrs. Wortham are on their vacation.

The county board of education held its regular meeting Monday of this week. Only routine matters were up for consideration, it was stated. All three members of the board were present: P. M. Arps, of Plymouth, chairman; L. E. Hassell, of Roper; and P. B. Belanga, of Creswell.

Tobacco prices were said to be much stronger on Eastern Carolina markets this week. For one thing, better quality leaf is being offered, and prices as high as \$50 were reported. Local observers said that the common grades were also selling better than they did a week or so ago.

Mrs. Jim Bateman, of Plymouth Route 1, displayed a freak pimento pepper which came out of her garden this week. It had a long curving handle growing out of the stem, which bent back over the top of the pimento.

Routine Matters Before County Board Monday

All three Washington County Commissioners, Chairman E. G. Arps, of Plymouth, J. C. Knowles, of Roper, and H. W. Pritchett, of Creswell, were on hand last Monday for the postponed meeting of the county board, but only routine matters and drawing of a jury list came before them for disposition, and the session was quickly over.

The board received and approved the regular reports of County Farm Agent W. V. Hays and County Home Demonstration Agent Mary Frances Darden.

The only other matter recorded in the minutes was the drawing of a jury list for the October term of superior court.

Our Greatest Challenge:

TO THE PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY:

We, all of the people of the county, are faced with the greatest challenge that has come to us in all the long history of this county. We are asked to invest TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND (\$262,000.00) DOLLARS in WAR BONDS in the next fifteen days. The Third War Loan Campaign, which is now underway, is the greatest money raising effort Americans have ever been asked to accomplish. In order to meet with our usual success, it will require the interest and efforts of every person in the county. You are asked by the United States Treasury Department to purchase at least ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS worth of these bonds, in addition to your usual purchases, during this period.

On Thursday and Friday, September 23 and 24, it is expected that every home in Washington County will be visited and you will be asked to pledge for the purchase of WAR BONDS. It is the sincere hope of the Central Committee that you will cooperate in this great undertaking. I can not recall any time when you have been called upon to accomplish a great task and failed. I am sure that you will not fail this time. I am,

Yours very truly, Plymouth, N. C., JOHN W. DARDEN, Chairman, Campaign Committee. September 14, 1943.

Back Salerno Day

H. E. Beam, chairman of the Washington County War Finance Committee, last night received the following self-explanatory telegram from C. T. Leinbach, chairman of the State War Finance Committee: "American boys at this moment are fighting one of the bloodiest battles of the war. Salerno may be another Chateau Thierry. The entire nation has its eyes, ears and hearts glued on those brave Americans in the critical Salerno sector. It has been suggested that Friday, the 17th, be proclaimed 'Back Salerno Day' in the Third War Loan Drive to give millions of Americans a special opportunity to buy extra war bonds in tribute to their boys, now locked in battle with the Germans. Many of those boys are from North Carolina. Let's make 'Back Salerno—Push Back the Germans' Friday's battle cry on the War Bond front."

Squirrel Season Opens October 1

Announcement was made this week by the game division of the State Department of Conservation and Development that the squirrel season for this section of the state would open October 1 and close January 1. The season is 15 days shorter this season than last, when it opened October 1 and closed January 15. The bag limit remains the same as last year, 10 per day. It was announced in daily papers this week that there was no bag limit for squirrel. This is an error, according to W. R. Hampton, local member of the state board, who said last night that minutes of the board meeting show that the daily bag limit is still 10, the same as for several years past.

Clayton Modlin, 61, Died Early Friday At Home Near Here

Native of Martin County; Funeral Held Saturday Near Jamesville

Clayton Modlin, well known farmer of route one, Plymouth, died at his home last Friday morning at 12:30 as the result of a heart ailment. Mr. Modlin's health had been declining steadily for the last five years, but he was confined to his bed only about three weeks. He was 61 years of age. Born in Martin County, near Jamesville, on October 19, 1881, he was the son of the late Harmon and Mary Harris Modlin. He lived in Martin County most of his life, moving to a farm near Plymouth only about three years ago. He was highly regarded in both communities as an able farmer and a good neighbor. Mr. Modlin was married to Miss Bettie Modlin, of Jamesville, on January 24, 1912, and is survived by his widow and eight children. He was a member of the Cedar Branch Baptist church near Jamesville for about 25 years and was one of its most faithful attendants. In addition to his widow, Mrs. Bettie Modlin, he is survived by seven sons, Andrew, Harmon, Clayton E., and Horace Modlin, of the home near Plymouth; George Modlin, of Robersonville; Delma Modlin, of Williamston; and Clarence Modlin, of the submarine division of the U. S. (See CLAYTON MODLIN, Page 4)

Jury List Drawn for October Court Term By Board Monday

Convenes October 25, With Judge Bone Scheduled To Preside

The names of 36 Washington County citizens were drawn by the county commissioners last Monday to serve as jurors for the one-week term of Washington County Superior Court, scheduled to begin Monday, October 25. Judge Walter J. Bone, of Nashville, resident judge of the second district, will preside over the session, according to the regular plan of rotation. The October term of court is for the trial of civil cases only and usually lasts only part of the week. No calendar has been prepared for the term as yet by members of the county bar association. Names of those drawn to serve on the jury are as follows: From Plymouth Township: Herbert Ange, Alfred L. Alexander, P. L. Carter, J. G. Modlin, Rufus E. Hopkins, L. S. Styon, Daston D. Ambrose, Leon J. Beppard, C. T. Cofield, Eli Winesett, W. J. Gurganus, D. W. Ange and Sam F. Garrett. Lees Mill Township: H. R. Davenport, Dallas Barnes, J. T. McAllister, Garfield Oliver, T. R. Chesson, Russell Chesson, E. F. Skiles, and James A. Chesson. Skinnerville Township: Harold Patrick, Eddie Stillman, S. A. Holton, L. A. Leary, Ernest Sprull, J. G. Hassell, and N. D. Bateman. Scuppernon Township: J. T. Davis, John T. Sprull, Alton Furlough, Earl Midgett, A. V. Davenport, W. E. Alexander, H. S. Tarkenton, and Sam D. Sprull.

Draft Officials Meet Friday To Work Out Uniform Procedure

State Officials To Explain Recent Directives at Conference

All three members of the Washington County Selective Service Board and Mrs. Eliza Daniel, secretary, are planning to attend a regional conference of draft officials in Washington Friday afternoon of this week. It is understood that Major Jones or Colonel Upton, of State Selective Service headquarters, will be there to explain a uniform procedure for local boards to follow when the drafting of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers is begun the first of next month. In the past, wide differences have existed among the various local boards in interpreting directives issued by national selective service officials. The meeting tomorrow is being held so that uniform interpretation can be made of new rulings relating to the calling of pre-war fathers. It is believed that a great deal of dissatisfaction can be eliminated if all counties in the region can proceed to draft fathers on the same basis. As things now stand, it is believed that there will be few white men with children called to fill the October quota from this county. However, demands on this class of men will increase in succeeding calls, it is indicated. Fathers in non-deferrable occupations who make no effort to get into the list of occupations classed as "essential" will be the first to go, according to present regulations. Whether or not Congress will come to the rescue of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers and prevent their induction by law is a much disputed question at this time. The matter is being debated this week, as Congress reconvenes, but some mighty fast action will be required to head off the calling of fathers in this immediate section. Military authorities contend it is necessary to draft fathers to carry out strategic plans already made, while a considerable number of Congressmen are said to be lining up behind the Wheeler bill which will prohibit the calling of fathers until after next January 1.

Audit Received by Town Council and Tax Rate of \$1.80 Set

Town Is in Good Financial Condition, Report Made Last Friday Shows

The Town Council, at a special meeting last Friday night, received and accepted the report of the auditor for the fiscal year which ended last June 30; and, following a discussion, officially approved a tax rate of \$1.80 for the current fiscal year. The new tax rate represents a reduction of 20 cents on the \$100 valuation from the rate which prevailed last year. As things now stand, it is believed that there will be few white men with children called to fill the October quota from this county. However, demands on this class of men will increase in succeeding calls, it is indicated. Fathers in non-deferrable occupations who make no effort to get into the list of occupations classed as "essential" will be the first to go, according to present regulations. Whether or not Congress will come to the rescue of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers and prevent their induction by law is a much disputed question at this time. The matter is being debated this week, as Congress reconvenes, but some mighty fast action will be required to head off the calling of fathers in this immediate section. Military authorities contend it is necessary to draft fathers to carry out strategic plans already made, while a considerable number of Congressmen are said to be lining up behind the Wheeler bill which will prohibit the calling of fathers until after next January 1.

Grocers and Barbers To Close Wednesday

Beginning next week, five grocery stores and three barber shops in Plymouth will resume the Wednesday afternoon half-holidays, it was announced yesterday. The stores and shops will close at 1 p.m. each Wednesday afternoon until Thanksgiving week. On the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and continuing through the month of December, the stores and shops will remain open each Wednesday until 6 p.m. The eight places of business which will observe the Wednesday half-holidays are as follows: A & P Store, Pender's store, Campbell's store, Wilford's, Allen's store, Plymouth Barber Shop, Modern Barber Shop and the Peoples Barber Shop. Patrons of the eight establishments are requested to bear in mind the early mid-week closing hour and make their purchases accordingly. The action was taken in order to give employees a few daylight hours each week for their own use, it was stated.

Tobacco Barn Destroyed In Fire Sunday Afternoon

A tobacco barn was completely destroyed by fire on the Bill Mizelle farm near Roper Sunday afternoon. The barn belonged to Owen Allen, while the tobacco in it was owned and being cured by Johnny Phelps, of the Roper section. It is understood that a comparatively small lot of tobacco was in the barn when it burned. So far this season, there have been very few tobacco barns destroyed by fire, in comparison with other years.

Attach Personal Property for Tax

Town Tax Collector P. W. Brown this week launched a determined drive to collect all past-due poll and personal property taxes. He announces that the town council has authorized him to garnish wages and attach personal property to enforce collection, and he warns those who have not paid such taxes that he will begin such action in the next few days. Those who owe past-due accounts are advised that they can save the cost of garnishing or levying on their property by paying up immediately. "This is positively the last notice I intend to give," the collector said yesterday.

Plan To Reach Everyone in County During Bond Drive

Workers Appointed To Cover All Parts County Next Week

Community Captains Will Have Charge of Drive in Their Sections

Community captains for the Third War Loan Campaign were named Tuesday night by a special committee composed of County School Superintendent H. H. McLean, Farm Agent W. V. Hays, and Home Demonstration Agent Mary Frances Darden, together with Campaign Chairman John W. Darden. In some instances both captains and canvassers were appointed. In others, only the captains were named, and it is left up to them to secure their assistants. In all cases, it is emphasized that the community leaders are empowered to appoint such assistants as they may desire; and they are also to divide the work as they see fit, the divisions listed here being in the nature of suggestions rather than definite boundaries. It is earnestly hoped, however, that the local captains, committees and workers see that every person in their respective communities is reached and urged to buy bonds during this drive. Captains will keep records of bonds bought or pledged and report them to the central committee, in order that proper credit may be given each neighborhood or community. Following is the list of neighborhood captains and workers as worked out by the committee Tuesday night: (In some cases special neighborhood committees are listed elsewhere in this paper): Cool Spring Neighborhood Mrs. J. P. Asby, county line to foot of Ridge Road on US 64; Mrs. S. B. Lucas, Ridge road to town. Long Ridge Road Henry Woodard, foot of the road to Beaver Dam; A. R. Watson, neighborhood; W. F. Ange, Beaver Dam of Ridge Road to A. R. Watson's; Raleigh Jackson, Long Ridge Road Captain. Long Acre Road Mrs. Jessie McNeil, neighborhood to W. H. Gurkin's; W. H. Gurkin, to Herbert Bateman's house; Charlie Bowen, from Pat Carter's to Turnpike road; John Allen, from Turnpike to Van Swamp. Acre Road captain; H. L. Respass, from Van Swamp to county line. Wenona J. L. Rae, captain; Mrs. Carl Heynen, neighborhood; Mrs. Ernest Rose, neighborhood; Mrs. Ted Rosenthal, neighborhood. (See COMMITTEES, Page 4)

List of Premiums for Bond Auction Next Week Is Increasing

Articles To Be Put on Display Today; Merchants Cooperating

Plans are going forward for a big bond auction on the stage at the Plymouth Theatre here Wednesday night of next week. The list of articles to be auctioned off to the highest bidder in bonds is steadily growing and will be greatly increased this afternoon when articles donated by Plymouth merchants and business men are assembled and put on display. Many articles have been contributed by individual patrons of the theatre, and all of them will be put on display in the show window of Norman Furniture Company here this afternoon and tomorrow, along with the items donated by local stores and shops. The bond auction is being sponsored by the management of the theatre. It is announced that the serial and shorts will be run prior to beginning the sale, with the feature to be run after the auction is concluded. Contributions to the prize list this week include a garden cultivator, by Mrs. R. J. Sydenstricker; 10 bags of flour, by the H. E. Harrison Wholesale Company; toilet soap by B. G. Campbell; bushel of Irish potatoes, by Mrs. H. A. Willford; a book, "The Works of Lord Byron," by a friend; basket of assorted groceries, by Mrs. Bernice Hammonds and Miss Marian Brinkley; bushel of Irish potatoes, by Gertrude S. Brinkley; and many others. Previously acknowledged gifts include a \$25 War Bond, and it is understood that several other bonds will be given by various interested persons. Plymouth merchants will have a large number of prizes on hand, and an entertaining and profitable evening is promised all who attend and bid on the articles to be given away.

Creswell Women Back Bond Drive

The Creswell Woman's Club is taking the lead in sponsoring the Third War Loan Drive in that section, it was learned here yesterday from Mrs. Sidney Smithson, chairman. Bonds will be on sale through the club at the school on Tuesdays throughout the remainder of the month. In addition, members of the club will have booths on the streets there Saturday for the sale of both bonds and stamps. The Creswell Town Council has authorized a prize of \$10 in War Stamps to be given the person who sells the most bonds and stamps during the campaign, which will continue throughout September. A house-to-house canvass is also to be made before the drive ends. Every person in Creswell is earnestly asked by the club to buy at least one bond during the month.

Whirlwind Canvass Is Set for Thursday, Friday of Next Week

Lot of Work Ahead in Order To Meet Quota of \$262,000

Practically all news in Washington County this week centers around plans for the campaign to sell the county's quota of \$262,000 worth of War Bonds in the Third War Loan Drive. All sections, communities, neighborhoods, organizations and practically all individuals have been drafted to help in the all-out effort to be waged for the remainder of the month until Washington County goes "over the top" again. Groundwork for a whirlwind two-day drive was laid Monday night, when about 25 persons gathered at the courthouse to plan the campaign. It was decided that the effort would be climaxed Thursday and Friday of next week, September 23 and 24, when every person in the county will be canvassed and urged to buy all the bonds possible. H. E. Beam, chairman of the county war finance committee, turned the meeting Monday over to John W. Darden, who will serve as special campaign chairman of the drive. Suggestions were called for, and it was then agreed to set up committees in every community to make the canvass on September 23 and 24. H. H. McLean, W. V. Hays and Mrs. Frances M. Darden were designated a special committee to divide up the county and name a captain for each neighborhood of community. Although suggestions were made as to the personnel of the committees in the various communities, it is emphasized that the captains in each will call on other workers to assist in the canvass. Some communities have already named their working groups, while others have not yet had sufficient time to do so. Those which have been completed are listed in other articles in this issue of the Beacon, but many of the lists were not available when the paper went to press today and hence may not appear until next week. (See BOND DRIVE, Page 4)

Nephew Local Lady Is Killed in Action

Mrs. O. A. Gephart, of Monroe Street, Plymouth, yesterday received a message stating that her nephew, Pilot J. T. Blanks, Jr., 22, of Clover, Va., was killed in action while serving with the Army Air Forces in the Italian theatre of war on August 14. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Blanks, of Clover, Va. Young Blanks enlisted in March, 1943, and received his wings at Spence Field, Moultrie, Ga., in January of this year. Almost immediately afterwards he was assigned to duty overseas, and it is known that he took part in the Sicilian invasion earlier this summer. No details of the action in which he lost his life are available at this time. In addition to his parents, Pilot Blanks is survived by a sister and two brothers.

One Farmer To Another:

Mackey's, N. C., September 18, 1943. To the Farmers of Washington County: It is being said that we farmers have not been buying War Bonds during the previous bond drives—let's not let this be said during THIS bond drive. Millions of campaign workers and bond buyers each have a part to play—so, Farmers, let's do our part! Our boys need guns, ammunition, ships, and tanks, and before these are put in their hands they must be paid for—the money must come from "we, the people." Our young American boys have given up their start in life, their families, and their friends to go to all fighting fronts to do their part and help protect our country. They are going through all kinds of hardships and giving up their all for our freedom. As we over here in the comfort of our homes think of the suffering and homesickness of our boys stationed in bleak cheerless places in Iceland, Alaska, the Solomons, and the Aleutians, how can we talk of being hurt by buying War Bonds? Your money not only helps out in the war when you buy a bond, but it is a safe investment for you. When you invest \$18.75, you will receive a \$25 War Bond; if you keep this bond to its maturity, which is 10 years, your bank will give you \$25 in cash for it. Someone will call on you during this drive to sell bonds—by this time you will have sold some cotton or tobacco, so don't turn them down. Invest at least the money you receive from the sale of seed from one bale of cotton—do even more if you can! Remember, your War Bonds are the safest investment in the world. On the home front, we must go shoulder to shoulder with our fighting men and go our limit to back them up so we will have an earlier victory and hasten in every way we can the return of our fighting men to their homes and their loved ones. When your money is in War Bonds, it is not only an investment, but it is ammunition—SO BUY WAR BONDS! Yours very truly, J. C. TARKENTON.