

It was learned here Monday that W. R. Ingram, prominent Williamson tobaccoist and father of Mrs. C. C. Hardison, of Plymouth, lost his life in a hotel fire at Fayetteville, Tenn., early Saturday morning. Funeral services were held for him in Williamson yesterday afternoon.

While visiting his sister, Mrs. W. B. Cox, here during the Christmas holidays, Charlie Jackson, of Norfolk, was taken to a Rocky Mount hospital for treatment for an aggravated sinus disorder. He underwent a series of operations after being admitted there December 26 and was sufficiently recovered to be brought back to his sister's home here yesterday.

Mrs. Wade H. Johnson, of Plymouth, was this week appointed county chairman for the infantile paralysis drive to be held the last week in January, according to a telegram received yesterday from R. W. Maddry, of Chapel Hill, publicity director. Dr. Ralph W. McDonald is state chairman of the campaign.

Despite the handicap of an artificial leg, acting Clerk of Superior Court W. B. Cox managed to get around all during the snow and ice a couple of weeks ago without falling even once. Then, Monday morning, in his office at the courthouse, he got up from his desk to answer the telephone, stuck his artificial foot into a misplaced cupboard, lost his equilibrium, dignity and good nature as he made a forced landing that shook the building. He was shaken up but not badly hurt and soon regained his temporarily lost attributes.

W. K. Taylor, Jr., grandson of Mrs. George Barden, sr., of Plymouth, who was wounded in the Salerno battle in Italy last fall, is now at Atlanta, Ga., hospital for plastic-surgery treatment. He is 22 years old.

Plymouth stores observed the first of the Wednesday half-holidays yesterday afternoon. Pursuant to a decision reached at the December meeting of the merchants association, local stores will close at noon each Wednesday for the remainder of the day.

County Auditor E. J. Spruill was back at work in his office at the courthouse this week after being out for about two weeks on account of flu and pneumonia. He is still a little weak, but is gaining strength every day.

Staff Sergeant C. G. Lehner, inspector of aircraft spotting posts in this section for the Norfolk Fighter Wing of the Army Air Forces, visited the three observation posts in Washington County this week. He said the Creswell and Roper posts were doing a fine work, and he believes things will be straightened out at the local post after a special meeting to be held here Friday night by William B. Daniels, Jr., the chief observer.

Large Crowd Here For Masonic Meet

Although a number of grand lodge officers were unable to attend, as scheduled, the Masonic meeting held here Tuesday afternoon and night was one of the largest ever to be held with the local lodge. Grand Master James W. Payne, of Salisbury, was present; and in addition to installing officers of Perseverance Lodge for the coming year made an address at the night session that was generally considered the high spot of the entire program.

There were more than 100 Masons in attendance on the barbecue supper, served in the community building at 7 o'clock by members of the Eastern Star chapter. Representatives were here from Elizabeth City, Edenton, Hertford, Gatesville, Windsor, Fairfield, Washington, Currituck, and a number of other localities, as well as visitors from the grand jurisdictions of Maine, Virginia, West Virginia, and Florida.

Edward L. Owens, newly installed master of the local lodge, served as master of ceremonies at the barbecue meeting; and a goodly number of the visitors were called on for brief talks. There were several district deputies present, including H. H. McLean, of Plymouth, who was instrumental in having the grand master attend the meeting here. It was generally agreed that the meeting was one of the most outstanding Masonic gatherings ever held in Plymouth.

Roper Council Votes \$75 To Plymouth Firemen for Response To Two Calls

Christmas is past, but the Plymouth Volunteer Fire Department last week received a couple of very nice presents. The Town of Roper councilmen, at a recent meeting, voted to appropriate \$75 for the firemen here as a mark of appreciation for their promptness in answering a couple of calls for assistance during recent months.

Accordingly, Chief Miller Warren last week was presented two checks, one for \$25 for answering a call to Davenport's store in Roper last September, and another for \$50 for answering a call

THE ROANOKE BEACON

VOLUME LV— NUMBER 1

Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Thursday, January 6, 1944

ESTABLISHED 1889

Ask Aircraft Spotters Here To Meet Tomorrow Night

Plans are now underway to completely reorganize the Ground Observer Corps in Plymouth at a meeting to be held in the courthouse here Friday night, it was stated yesterday by the Rev. William B. Daniels, Jr., chief observer. At the present time the local aircraft warning post is operated only one afternoon each week, but Army Air Force officials are asking that a more permanent organization be formed, so that the post can go on continuous operation if an emergency should arise.

Mr. Daniels hopes to secure 24 volunteers upon whom he can depend at the meeting Friday night. Sixteen persons will be designated to serve regular shifts on Wednesday afternoons, which will mean only about one hour on duty each month. The other eight, four men and four women, will be used as alternates.

The purpose of the reorganization is to have sufficient volunteers available to man the post on a continuous basis for 48 or possibly 72 hours in case of emergency. This would give the chief observer sufficient time to recruit volunteers to keep the post in continuous operation should conditions require it.

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New Register Deeds Sworn in Monday at County Board Meeting

Several Other Matters Before Commissioners at Regular Meeting

J. Robert Campbell took the oath of office as Washington County Register of Deeds at the monthly meeting of the county board of commissioners Monday morning and immediately entered upon his duties, which include that of ex officio clerk to the commissioners. The oath was administered by Assistant Clerk of the Superior Court W. B. Cox.

All three of the county board members, Chairman E. G. Arps, J. C. Knowles and H. W. Pritchett, were present for the meeting. The bond of the new register of deeds, who was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Mary Cahoon Hawkins, was approved and accepted. Mrs. Hawkins resigned at the December meeting of the board, as she plans to move to New Bern in the near future.

The clerk was instructed to write to the tax supervisor, E. F. Swain, who is in a Norfolk hospital, to ascertain how soon he will be able to resume his duties in connection with the tax-listing work now underway throughout the county.

W. W. Ange was appointed to survey a tract of land adjoining the property of E. R. Blount.

A motion was passed by the commissioners to pay Z. V. Norman the sum of \$1,193.82 and expenses for the balance due as attorney's fees in connection with tax suits and settlement of claims against the Roper and Norfolk Southern Land Company lands in this county.

L. L. Basnight, superintendent of the county farm was instructed to prepare a detailed report concerning the operations of the county farm in the year 1943 and present it at a future meeting of the board.

Education Specialist To Hold Conference Here January 12th

Lester A. Kirkendall Will Speak to Students and PTA Members

On Wednesday, January 12, Lester Kirkendall, educational specialist of the State Board of Health, will spend the day at Plymouth High School holding conferences dealing with the subjects of social relationships and sex education. Mr. Kirkendall is well acquainted with the instruction of the subjects mentioned, having served as consultant on the committee of social hygiene education for the State of Oklahoma before coming to the North Carolina State Board of Health.

The Parent-Teacher Association of Plymouth High School has made it possible for Mr. Kirkendall to be at the school for one day. These social relationship lectures are encouraged by the State Board of Health and will be informing and educational. The State Official will speak informally to small groups of representative students during the day, and later speak to the entire high school at assembly.

Also at 3:30, Mr. Kirkendall will address the faculty of the school, and representatives of local civic and religious organizations are urged to be present. At 8 p.m. Wednesday night the Parent-Teacher Association will hold a meeting at which time Mr. Kirkendall will give another address and all interested persons and those unable to attend in the afternoon are urged to be present.

Mr. Hermine Ramsey, registrar for whiskey ration book No. 2, said yesterday that she issued more books Tuesday, when the registration was resumed, than she did the entire first four weeks of the registration period in October and November. The issuance of books was halted December 1st and no registration was permitted until Tuesday of this week.

Those who have not applied for their new liquor books may make application at Mrs. Ramsey's office here any Tuesday. They are advised not to forget to bring their War Ration Book No. 3.

Number Apply Tuesday For New Liquor Books

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New Representative Here For Washington Laundry

The Standard Cleaners & Laundry, of Washington, has employed Renn Dupree to handle their laundry pickup and delivery service here, effective this week. He succeeds Earl Phelps, who left yesterday after volunteering for service in the Navy.

Laundry bundles will be collected each Monday and Tuesday, it is announced, with deliveries to be made each Saturday. Patrons are also advised that all laundry bundles must be composed of at least 50 per cent flat work in order to secure the pound rate. Otherwise, the charge will be made by the piece.

Council Bans Sale of Beer and Wine Here Saturday to Monday

Also Prohibits Boys From Shining Shoes on Sidewalks Uptown

Town councilmen passed on a number of matters at their regular meeting last Monday night, but beer and bootblacks were the principle topics of discussion. The council adopted a state law which will ban the sale of beer inside the city limits from Saturday night until Monday morning, while the swarm of colored boys who shine shoes on the streets here were prohibited from this practice in the future.

The ordinance relating to bootblacks provides that no shoes may be shined on the sidewalks in the business section, and that each shoe shine stand shall pay a privilege tax of \$1 per year. Colored boys who have been hanging around the streets to shine shoes during the latter part of each week may continue their trade if they secure a stand and pay the \$1 license tax, but the stand may not be placed on the sidewalks.

The councilmen adopted the state law which permits municipalities to prohibit the sale of wine, beer, and other alcoholic beverages between the hours of 11:30 Saturday nights and 7 a.m. Mondays.

A complaint was made about the crowds which block the sidewalks in front of the theatre here prior to opening ticket sales, and the council charged the police force with the duty of lining up the theatre patrons in such manner as to keep at least a passageway open.

Dewey Ange and Paul Gurganus asked that cinders or some other material be applied to the dirt street which intersects Wilson street the other side of the railroad crossing. Complaint was also made that trains block this same dirt street sometimes for as long as an hour.

Fire Chief Miller Warren made his annual report to the council. This report showed that while the fire department was called out a greater number of times, only 12 fires actually required the application of water or chemicals during the past year. This is the smallest number to be reported in a number of years.

In addition to the above matters, routine business was disposed of and bills ordered paid by the councilmen.

Price Paid for Waste Fats Is Increased by Recent OPA Ruling

Housewives Now To Get 4 Cents Pound and 2 Red Meat Points

By Miss HELENE DUVAL
OPA RSR-14 sets as a maximum price for household fats, 4 cents a pound to the housewife and 5 cents a pound to the merchant. A majority of the rendering firms in North Carolina have agreed to pay the merchant 5 cents per pound, thus enabling the merchant to pay the housewife 4 cents. In addition to this, 2 red meat points are given for every pound of waste fats turned over to the grocer.

This should tremendously increase the amount of fats collected in North Carolina, which is exactly what the Government is trying to do. The goal is a pound of waste fats a month from each housewife.

Meat dealers have agreed to take the fat if it is brought in tin cans and large particles strained out of it. One wholesale meat firm is picking up the fat in Washington County and another is trying to make arrangements to move some to their rendering plant. Housewives should not have trouble any more getting rid of their waste fats. If one grocer is unable to take it because he does not sell meats or because his dealer cannot at present take it up, then another grocer will readily take it. The drive for the collection of waste fats is on stronger than ever now. They are urgently needed.

Waste Paper
Waste newspaper, magazines, and corrugated boxes will again be collected on Monday, January 17th. Further notice is expected to be given by hand bills.

Tin Cans
Containers for tin cans which were placed at the municipal building have not yet been filled the first time. A ton or more must be collected before they can be shipped, but housewives seem to have forgotten how urgently they are needed by the Army.

Parent-Teacher Association To Meet Next Wednesday

The Plymouth Parent-Teacher Association will hold a meeting in the school auditorium here Wednesday evening of next week, January 12, at 8 o'clock, it was announced this week by Mrs. W. V. Hays. Lester Kirkendall, education specialist from the State Department of Health, will speak on "Social Relationships and Sex Education." A good attendance is urged at this meeting.

Superior Court Will Convene Monday for Term of Two Weeks

LAPEL BUTTON



Men and women who have been honorably discharged from any branch of the armed services since the present war began are now being authorized to wear the above insignia, of gold-plated plastic, it was announced last week by the War Department.

25 Colored Men Go Into Service From County Last Month

Navy and Marines Get 3 Each; Other 19 Will Go Into Army

Final returns on the December draft call for colored men from this county shows that 25 out of the 62 who made the trip to Fort Bragg were accepted for service with the various branches of the armed forces. Of the 25 accepted, three went to the Navy, three to the Marine Corps, and 19 to the Army. Only three of those accepted were pre-Pearl Harbor fathers, one for the Navy and the other two for the Army.

The two fathers accepted by the Army were both from Plymouth, Ernest Jones and David Rupert Swain. The other father, Joe Willie Phelps, of Creswell, went to the Navy.

Of the non-fathers, Plymouth again furnished the larger part of those accepted, 14, the Navy getting 1, the Marine Corps 3, and the Army 10. Creswell furnished 5, the Navy getting 1 and the Army 4. Three Roper youths all went to the Army.

The list of non-fathers accepted is as follows:

From Plymouth: Leroy Mitchell, by the Navy; Alfred Roosevelt Wingome, Jr., Charlie Rutherford Garrett and Anthony Alphonso Jordan, by the Marines; Johnnie Asa Johnson, Claudius Bratts, Fred Small, McKinley Smith, James McDowell Jordan, James Bruce, Arnonius Taylor, William Thomas Moore, Alustus Louis Holley and Willie Lee, by the Army.

From Creswell: John Littlejohn, Jr., by the Navy; Latam, Andrew Bouton, Chester Willie Baum and George Thomas Brickhouse, by the Army.

From Roper: Roscoe Boston, Raleigh Chesson, and Wilson Linwood Webb, by the Army.

Draft Calls Smaller For Current Month

The Washington County Selective Service Board has received its call for both colored and white men to report for possible induction this month. The calls have been reduced for January, it was learned, but the board has been ordered to prepare for larger calls in February. A large proportion of both calls very likely will be from the ranks of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers.

The local board is now busy carrying out the new procedure in cases of deferred men who are registered here but who are working in localities where other boards have jurisdiction over them. Files on such men are being forwarded to appeal boards in the sections where they now live, as directed by regulations recently promulgated.

Registrants Holding Farm Deferments Must File Farm Plans by January 15

All Washington County registrants who live on farms and wish to continue to hold their farm classifications are notified by the local selective service board that they must file their proposed 1944 farm plans with the board not later than January 15. The blanks on which farm plans are to be submitted to the draft board may be secured at the office of the USDA War Board at the Agriculture Building here. The local draft board also announces that farm operators who have draft registrants working

Session Will Be for Trial of Both Civil and Criminal Cases

Judge C. Everett Thompson Of Elizabeth City, To Preside

The Washington County Superior Court will convene next Monday morning at 10 o'clock for the regular January two-week term. Judge C. Everett Thompson, of Elizabeth City, is scheduled to preside over the sessions, which will be for the trial of both criminal and civil actions. The first three days of next week have been set aside for the trial of criminal cases, with the remainder of the term to be devoted to civil actions.

Nine criminal cases are on the docket for trial beginning Monday morning, while the regular civil calendar carries 22 cases, and the motion calendar has 21 more. The civil calendar is set to begin Thursday morning and continue through the following Wednesday. Six divorce cases have been set for the first day of the civil session, and there are several more on the motion calendar, which may be called at the pleasure of the court.

The criminal docket is as follows: State vs. Mrs. N. C. Walters; reckless driving; continued from last July term.

State vs. Van B. Martin, breaking and entering; also continued from last term of court.

State vs. Vernon Nixon, white, of Edenton; Gregory Norman and Raymond Everett, colored, of Mackeys; indicted by grand jury last July on charges of theft.

Lloyd Chappell and Wayland White, white, of Edenton; carnal knowledge of female over 12 and under 16 years of age. They were originally charged with rape, but the grand jury found not a true bill on that count and returned an indictment as above.

State vs. J. D. Vick, white, of Plymouth; two cases, both charging carnal knowledge of female over 12 and under 16 years of age.

(See SUPERIOR COURT, Page 8)

Harley Johnson, Former Resident, Is Killed in Action

Family in Richwood Notified December 24 of His Death in Italy

News was received here last week of the death in action of Private Harley Johnson, former resident of Plymouth, who was killed in Italy November 21, 1943. An employee of the North Carolina Public Service, he was inducted into the service, his father, W. V. Johnson, of Richwood, W. Va., and his mother, Mrs. O. W. Johnson, of Richwood, W. Va., were notified of his death by a newspaper published in that news of his death was learned here.

The following article about him appeared in The Richwood Republican, published at Richwood, W. Va., on Friday, December 24:

"Mrs. O. W. Johnson received a telegram from the War Department Saturday, stating that her son, Private Harley Johnson had been killed in action on November 21, 1943. Harley had served overseas for the past six months, going over in May of this year. He first landed in Northern Africa, later being transferred to Italy, where he met his death."

Private Johnson was inducted into the army on December 16, 1942. He was stationed at the following camps here in the United States, Ft. Bragg, N. C., Camp Sibert, and Rucker, Alabama.

Harley attended Richwood High School. He was employed by the Cherry River Paper Company here until their disbandment being transferred to Italy, where he met his death.

(See KILLED IN ITALY, Page 6)