

VOLUME LV—NUMBER 3

Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Thursday, January 20, 1944

It was learned this week that W. A. Roebuck, popular young local man, is leaving February 1st to become general manager of the Manning Supply Company, mercantile and farmers' supply firm in Bethel. He has been employed here by the Branch Banking & Trust Company for the past year and is a member of the city council from the second ward. He has many friends in Plymouth who regret to see him leave.

Lt. Jg. W. S. Moore, former agriculture teacher at the Plymouth High School, is a visitor in Plymouth today. He volunteered and was commissioned an ensign in the Navy more than 18 months ago, receiving a promotion to junior grade lieutenant July 1st last year. He has been on duty in Maryland for the past year or more. Mrs. Moore is making her home in Raleigh.

Several vestrymen of Grace Episcopal Church attended a laymen's meeting at St. Peter's Church in Washington Wednesday night. A supper was given by St. Peter's parish to the men at 7 o'clock. The principal speaker was the Rev. William C. Campbell, director of the Presiding Bishop's committee on laymen's work.

Lt. and Mrs. Hugh Fagan Jordan announce the birth of a daughter in a Rocky Mount hospital on Wednesday morning, January 19. Mrs. Jordan is the former Miss Evelyn Arps, of Plymouth, and at the present time is living here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Arps. Lieutenant Jordan has recently been stationed at Sarasota, Fla., with the Army Air Forces.

The maximum retail ceiling price for ungraded country eggs was fixed by the OPA at 49 cents for the current week. It was announced yesterday at the office of the rationing board in the courthouse here. The maximum wholesale price for eggs of the same grade is 42.2 cents per dozen.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Jordan, of Dardens, are in Hot Springs, Ark., taking the hot thermal baths every day, according to a card received by friends here last week. They stated that they kept just ahead of the snows all the way going out to Arkansas, arriving there New Year's Day.

Ensign and Mrs. W. J. Highsmith, jr., of Columbus, Ohio, arrived Tuesday to spend about a week in Plymouth visiting relatives and friends. Formerly a sanitarian with the district health department, Ensign Highsmith is now battalion adjutant of the U. S. Naval Training School of Recognition at the University of Ohio.

James S. Vinson, representative of the state department of agriculture, was a business visitor in Plymouth yesterday. Mr. Vinson's home is in Ahsokie.

Technician Fifth Grade D. Leroy Bateman and Tom Patrick, of Fort Jackson, S. C., were home for a few hours last Sunday. Mr. Bateman visited his wife and parents in Plymouth, while Mr. Patrick went on to Creswell to see his brother, Edward Patrick. They returned Sunday afternoon to Fort Jackson.

Creswell Youth Reported In Utah Army Hospital

Creswell—It was learned here this week that Sergeant Thomas H. Davenport, Jr., of the Army Air Forces, is now in a hospital at Kearns, Utah. He was taken there January 9th, suffering with acute tonsillitis and scarlet fever and has been very ill although he is understood to be much improved at this time.

Sergeant Davenport is an aerial engineer and gunner. He is a nephew of Miss Susie Mae Davenport, of Creswell, by whom he was reared from infancy.

Insane Man Placed in County Jail Tuesday

Milton Brown, 58-year-old colored man of White City, was placed in the county jail here Tuesday night after he suddenly became violently insane. Commitment papers have been issued to have him placed in the asylum at Goldsboro, and Sheriff Reid said yesterday that he planned to take him to that institution probably Saturday of this week.

Extension Workers of 9 Counties Will Meet Here To Discuss 1944 Farm Plans

Extension workers of nine counties will meet in the agriculture building in Plymouth Wednesday afternoon of next week, January 26, it was announced yesterday by County Agent W. V. Hays, who is making arrangements for the meeting. The meeting will be in charge of B. T. Ferguson, an assistant director of the Extension Service. The meetings are being held for the purpose of considering how to aid farmers in meeting the 1944 production and conservation goals of the state. Extension workers from the following counties are expected to attend:

Offer \$25 War Bond for Best Essay on Pulpwood and War by School Student

Announcement was made this week by Shep Brinkley, manager of the Victory Pulpwood Campaign for the North Carolina Pulp Company, of Plymouth, that every high school girl and boy in Washington County is eligible to enter the pulpwood essay contest. Four \$25 War Bonds will be given by the pulp company for the four best essays, one each in four districts. The rules of the contest are very simple. Choose one of three subjects, as follows: "Pulpwood's

Vital Part in the War Effort"; "Pulpwood Helps Win the War"; or "Pulpwood Goes To War." Write an essay of from 500 to 1,000 words, sign and mail it to the Pulpwood Contest Editor, Roanoke Beacon, Plymouth, N. C., so that it will be received by midnight of March 10, 1944, when the contest closes.

The best essay from Washington County will be selected by an impartial group of judges, and the winning paper sent to the

district judges, who will decide the winner of the \$25 bond for that district.

Letters will be distributed throughout the schools outlining the principal phases of the contest. High school principals, English or agricultural instructors and faculty members may help students in any way possible. Boys and girls are urged to begin work on the contest right away, as midnight March 10 is the deadline, all entries must be received by then.

Tax Listing Continues Very Slow in County; Only 10 Days Remain

Tax Lister To Be At Wenona 27th

E. M. Chesson, tax lister for Lees Mills Township, this week announced that he would be in Wenona Thursday of next week, January 27, in order that people of that section may list their taxes then without inconvenience.

Mr. Chesson originally scheduled his visit to the Wenona community on January 10, but due to bad weather very few were able to list at that time. Consequently he announced the new date this week, and he requests all property owners in that community to see him while he is there January 27th.

Mrs. Maggie Swain Died Early Monday At Son's Home Here

Funeral Held From Christian Church Tuesday Afternoon

Mrs. Maggie Swain, widow of the late C. W. Swain, of Plymouth, died at 1 a. m. Monday morning at the home of her son, L. R. Swain, on Washington Street, here after an illness extending over the past three months. Mrs. Swain was 68 years old and highly regarded as a friend and neighbor by those who knew her.

Born in Washington County on September 30, 1875, she was the daughter of the late John Beasley and Nellie McNair Beasley. She had lived in Washington County all of her life. On December 10, 1890, she was married to C. W. Swain, who died in 1924.

Mrs. Swain was a member of the Saints Delight Christian church for 25 years, after which she transferred her membership to the Plymouth Christian church, of which she remained a faithful member for 30 years. As long as her health permitted she was very regular in her attendance upon the services, and she took a very active interest in the work of her church throughout her life.

Mrs. Swain is survived by five sons, L. R. Swain, Robert S. Swain, W. A. Swain, Linwood Swain, of Plymouth; and O. R. Swain, of the United States Navy. She also leaves six grandchildren, one great-grandchild; two sisters, Mrs. Cottie Bowen and Mrs. Clarence Sprull, of Plymouth; and a brother, Samuel Beasley, also of Plymouth.

Name J. C. Knowles To Supervise Work While Mr. Swain Ill

Less Than 20 Per Cent of Property in Some Localities Listed So Far

County Commissioner J. C. Knowles was recently appointed to supervise the tax-listing work now in progress throughout the county due to the illness of the regular tax supervisor, E. F. Swain, of Creswell. The county board of commissioners was last week notified by Mr. Swain, who has been in a Norfolk hospital since before the first of the year, that he did not know exactly when he would be able to return to his duties.

Before the letter was received from Mr. Swain, the commissioners had delegated Mr. Knowles to superintend tax listing, which began January 1st and will continue through the remainder of the month, with the title of assistant tax supervisor. It had become necessary to take this action, as the listing work was lagging throughout the county, and it was imperative that the task be completed before February 1st.

Mr. Knowles said this week that less than 40 per cent of the property in the county has been listed so far, despite the fact that nearly two-thirds of the month is gone. In some townships, only about 20 per cent of the property owners have given in their lists, he stated.

It was also announced that no extension of time for listing is in prospect, as this course will entail considerable added expense to the county. All of which means that there is going to be a real last-minute rush this year, as well as the probability of some property owners being assessed penalties for failure to list during the period.

Mr. Knowles appeals to all taxpayers to make a special effort during the remaining 10 days to get their property listed. Those who have not listed are urged to see their respective township list-takers and do so at once.

21 White Registrants Will Go To Ft. Bragg From Here Monday

Four Fathers Included in List; 17 From County, 4 Transfers

Twenty-one white men are scheduled to leave next Monday morning for Fort Bragg for physical examination and possible induction into the armed forces. Seventeen of the number are Washington County registrants, while the other four are transfers from the jurisdiction of other boards. Two of the number from this county are volunteers, and there are only four fathers in the entire group, one of which is a volunteer.

Most of those being called up are young men who have reached the age of 18 in recent months or men whose deferments have expired, including several who formerly held farm classifications but who had not planned to farm this year. Two of the men, one a volunteer, are classified as 1-A-L, indicating that they may be accepted for limited service only, due to physical deficiencies.

Of the 17 county registrants called up, 10 are from Plymouth, 5 from Roper and 2 from Creswell. Three of the four fathers are from Plymouth and the other is from Roper. Both volunteers are from Plymouth. The complete list of those who have been ordered to report for possible induction next Monday morning is as follows:

From Plymouth: Grover Lee Sawyer, David Marion Styons, Julian Calvin Basnight, Thomas Ruffin Flowers, James Burrus Sprull, Earl

Decision Reversed In Case From Here By Appellate Court

Judge Meekins' Opinion in Hampton-Pulp Company Case Overruled

Another chapter in the long-drawn-out litigation between W. R. Hampton and the North Carolina Pulp Company, both of Plymouth, was written in Richmond Monday of this week, when the United States Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the decision of a lower court favoring the defendant pulp company. This does not finally settle the matter, but plaintiff attorneys think the decision in Richmond Monday coupled with opinions handed down in their favor by the state supreme court last November, may open the way to get the issues before a jury and eventual settlement.

Suit was first instituted in 1941 by Mr. Hampton, alleging damage in the sum of \$30,000 in losses sustained in operation of his fisheries, several hundred yards above the pulp mill on Roanoke River near here, due to pollution of the river by the defendant. In Federal district court last spring a motion to dismiss the action was allowed, and attorneys for Mr. Hampton appealed to the circuit court of appeals.

Judge Isaac Meekins, of Elizabeth City, wrote the district court opinion last spring, dismissing the action on the grounds that the plaintiff was not entitled to recover, as a matter of law. The opinion received wide circulation in the state press due to some of its facetious aspects.

The circuit court of appeals this week simply announced that "judgment of lower court reversed per curiam." A definition of the legal term "per curiam" is that it "designates an opinion of the court in a case in which the judges are all of one mind and the question involved is so clear that it is not considered necessary to elaborate it by an extended discussion."

A companion case was brought in state courts last year to get a ruling from the state supreme court on some of the questions involved. Judge Walter J. Bone, of Nashville, made two rulings, one favoring the plaintiff and the other the defendant. Both appealed, and the contentions of plaintiff attorneys were upheld in both instances by the state supreme court.

The cases have created wide interest, due to amount of damages sought and the prominence of opposing attorneys in the matter. The pulp company has been represented by United States Senator Josiah W. Bailey, of Raleigh; Z. V. Norman, of Plymouth; and Malcolm K. Whyte, of Milwaukee, Wis. Mr. Hampton is being represented by former Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus, of Raleigh, and Carl L. Bailey, of Plymouth.

Child Killed Near Tarboro by Running Into Local Man's Car

Driver Exonerated of Blame For Accident Yesterday By Coroner's Jury

Joe Lewis Edwards, 6-year-old colored child, was instantly killed near Tarboro Wednesday, shortly before noon, when he ran across the highway and into the side of a car operated by William Garland Hardison, young white man of Plymouth. A coroner's jury exonerated Mr. Hardison of any blame for the accident a few hours later, following an investigation by Coroner J. G. Raby and J. H. Chadwick, of the State Highway Patrol.

Mr. Hardison was on his way to Durham, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Webb Jones, of Plymouth. The car belonged to Jack Horner, also of Plymouth. About a mile west of Mildred, on a long straight stretch of road, the child ran down a slight embankment and into the side of the car, the handle of the left front door striking him in the head, according to the highway patrolman. It was said the child was looking back at his brother, who was driving a stalk

Local Draft Board Studies New Orders At Lengthy Session

Will Take Up Review of Farm Classifications at Meet Next Tuesday

Members of the Washington County Selective Service Board had a lengthy session at their regular meeting Tuesday night, discussing the effects of new directives received from state and national headquarters during the preceding week. The board was scheduled to take up consideration of farm deferments, but barely got started on this work before adjournment at a late hour, due to the multitude of other matters before it.

Next Tuesday, the board members plan to start their meeting at 6 p. m., so that they can complete, if possible, reviewing farm classifications in the light of 1944 farm plans recently filed by registrants who hold "C" classifications. Since there are more than 200 registrants in this class, it is evident that the board has a full night's work ahead of it.

In connection with the new regulations, it was determined that registrants will not necessarily get 10 days' notice in the future before being called to go to Fort Bragg for pre-induction examinations. The board will give those ordered to report for the examinations as much time as possible, but it is regarded as fairly certain that those called up in February will not get more than 5 or 6 days' notice, and there is no assurance of any definite time for them.

This means that it is more important than ever for all registrants to keep the draft board informed of their correct addresses. Those who are ordered to report for examination will be cited as delinquent for failure to obey the call; and there may not be time for the notices to be forwarded from one address to another, it is stated.

As under former regulations, registrants have 10 days in which to appeal after they have been reclassified in 1-A. However, they may be ordered to report for the physical examinations while such appeals are pending, or before appeals are entered. In fact, under the new regulations, a man may be called to report for examination before he is reclassified 1-A, since examination of 3-A men is now permitted.

It was stated that no calls have been received yet by the local board for February; but they are expected almost daily. Possibly a much larger number of men will be ordered to report for examination that will actually be called into service during the month, as it is hoped to build up a reserve list so that the time between examinations and actual induction may be extended to as much as 45 days. However, it will require some time to build up the reserve list of physically qualified men to this point.

Plans for Infantile Paralysis Drive in County Being Made

Mrs. Wade Johnson Announces Appointment of Several Assistants

According to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, the 1943 outbreak of this disease was the worst in 12 years. Almost 12,000 persons, men, women and children, were stricken last year. Only twice before in the recorded history of infantile paralysis has there been more cases reported.

The total cost of the 1943 epidemic cannot be estimated, because many of those stricken will still be patients in 1944 and some for years thereafter.

All of which lends emphasis to the drive being conducted in this county to raise a quota of \$308 for combating the disease. Fifty per cent of the money raised will go to aid cases which originate in Washington County, while the remainder will be sent to the National Foundation.

Mrs. Wade Johnson, chairman of the county campaign, this week announced the appointment of Mrs. W. A. Davidson as county chairman of the women's division. Mrs. A. Papi-neau was appointed chairman for the town of Plymouth, and Mrs. S. C. Smithson chairman for Creswell. Mrs. Johnson said that she had not yet been able to secure a chairman to head the campaign in Roper.

The chairman also expressed the hope that it would be possible to arrange a dance here for the purpose of raising funds before the end of the drive the latter part of the month.

Plymouth and Roper Cage Teams Meet Friday Night

Roper.—The Plymouth High School boys' and girls' basketball teams will meet the Roper High School teams in the Roper High School Auditorium Friday night, January 21. The first game will begin at 7:30 p. m.

No Organized Effort Arranged for Fourth War Loan in County

ABC CHAIRMAN



P. M. Arps, Plymouth druggist and chairman of the county board of education, was elected chairman of the ABC board of Washington County at a joint meeting last Thursday night of the boards of commissioners, education and health.

P. M. Arps Elected Head of ABC Board At Meet Last Week

Selection Will Leave Vacancy on County Board of Education

P. M. Arps, well-known Plymouth druggist and chairman of the Washington County Board of Education, was last Thursday night elected chairman of the ABC board at a joint meeting of the county boards of commissioners, education and health. Only four names were presented to the joint meetings as candidates, and Mr. Arps was elected on the first ballot.

Mr. Arps was elected to fill the unexpired term of J. Robert Campbell, who recently assumed the duties of register of deeds, succeeding Mrs. Mary Cahoon Hawkins, who resigned effective January 1 in order to move to New Bern in the near future. Mr. Campbell submitted his resignation as ABC chairman to the joint meeting last Thursday night.

It is understood that the names of four candidates were submitted to the meeting last week. In addition to the winner they were E. G. Arps, chairman of the county board of commissioners; J. T. Bateman, farmer of near Plymouth; and W. T. Stillman, assistant cashier of the Branch Banking & Trust Co., of Plymouth. The vote was said to have been divided as follows: P. M. Arps, 6; E. G. Arps, 3; and W. T. Stillman, 1.

Although Mr. Arps is to enter upon his new duties as chairman of the ABC board as soon as possible, he indicated this week that would not resign from the board of education until some pending matters were cleared up and arrangements made for appointment of his successor.

It could not be immediately ascertained just what the procedure is for filling a vacancy on the board of education. However, it is understood that the county Democratic executive committee recommends a person for nomination and that the Governor makes the appointment.

Members of the three boards present for the joint meeting last Thursday night were as follows: E. G. Arps, J. C. Knowles, and H. W. Pritchett, of the county board of commissioners; P. M. Arps, L. E. Hassell, and P. B. Belanga, of the board of education; and B. G. Campbell, H. H. McLean, Dr. A. Papineau and Dr. W. H. Johnson, of the board of health.

One Per Cent Penalty on Unpaid 1943 Taxes Becomes Effective February 1

County and town tax collectors this week reminded taxpayers that the state schedule of penalties for unpaid 1943 taxes becomes effective after February 1st. The penalty starts at 1 per cent and increases 1 per cent each month until June, when advertisement of all real property is to begin.

The tax collectors are empowered to seize personal property for past-due taxes at any time, and wages may be garnished for past-due poll taxes.

Not Able to Secure Anyone to Serve as Chairman of Drive

Campaign Was Supposed to Start Tuesday and Continue for Month

Although the Fourth War Loan Campaign got underway throughout the United States last Tuesday, no organized effort has been arranged yet for Washington County, which has been assigned a quota of \$28,000 during the drive. H. E. Beam, chairman of the county war finance committee, has been unable to secure anyone to serve as chairman for the drive, he said this morning, despite the fact that he has approached more than 20 people about the matter.

Mr. Beam is continuing his efforts to perfect an organization, and in the meantime all citizens are urged to do their part during the campaign by buying War Bonds at the places where they are regularly on sale. In this county, they may be purchased through the Branch Banking & Trust Company in Plymouth, or at the post offices in Plymouth, Roper and Creswell.

It is expected that local people will "rally around" when they learn that the county's excellent record of War Bond purchases is threatened by indifference. The county has fallen down very few times in raising its monthly quotas since they were first assigned, while total sales of War Bonds since the war started is far ahead of the total quotas.

It is possible that details of the campaign will be worked out in time to be announced by next week, according to Mr. Beam. The main object right now is to secure a county chairman to head up the work, as it is believed most of the individual workers who served in past campaigns will be glad to help out again.

The county fell about \$50,000 short of its quota of \$252,000 in the third War Loan Drive last fall, but it is believed the smaller quota of \$28,000 can be realized this time if an effective organization can be set up.

Number Civil Cases Disposed of During Past Week in Court

Seven Divorces Granted at Session Thursday of Last Week

Completing trial of the criminal docket Tuesday afternoon of last week, the Washington County Superior Court resumed its session last Thursday morning, when trial of the civil calendar was begun. Practically all of Thursday was spent in the trial of divorce cases, and a total of seven divorces were granted during the course of the day's proceedings.

Since that time, the court has been in session fairly regularly, and a number of cases have been cleared from the calendar. Judge C. Everett Thompson of Elizabeth City, is presiding, and keeps things moving along at a steady pace. The court recessed at noon yesterday until this morning, and three cases are on the calendar for today. They are Clarence Hardison vs. Norfolk Southern Railroad Co.; James E. Mizell vs. Town of Plymouth; and Sallie Wilson vs. Noah Taylor.

The three cases listed above are the last on the civil calendar scheduled for this term of court, but there are several pending matters on the motion calendar which may or may not be called up this week, depending upon the length of time required for trial and inclination of the court.

Following is a resume of the proceedings since the court reconvened last Thursday morning:

(See SUPERIOR COURT, Page 6)