

Pfc. Duncan Getsinger spent a few days this week here with his sister, Mrs. George T. Barden, and Mr. Barden. Private Getsinger enlisted in the Army Dental Corps some months ago and is now studying at the Medical College of Virginia at Richmond.

Major Brook F. Read, of the Inspector General's Department, U. S. Army, spent the week-end here with his mother, Mrs. Claudia Read. He recently returned to the United States after a tour of duty in the Southwest Pacific, and he is now stationed at Atlanta, Ga.

It is not necessary for farmers to secure a permit for butchering their hogs, County Farm Agent W. V. Hays stated this morning. However, they are required to collect ration stamps if they sell any of the pork, he said. The regulation requiring permits for butchering hogs has been suspended for an indefinite period of time.

L. T. Rose, past master of the local Masonic Lodge, attended the regular meeting of Perseverance lodge Tuesday of last week and conferred the first degree on a candidate for initiation. Mr. Rose is now living in Norfolk, Va.

Roece Browning, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Browning, of Plymouth, was recently promoted to the grade of sergeant while serving with the U. S. Army in Italy. He also received the Army good conduct medal in recent weeks. Sergeant Browning has been overseas for about 18 months, serving in Ireland, England and North Africa before going to Italy.

Prospects are that Washington County will fall down badly on its War Bond quota for March. Sales up to today at the local bank and post office amounted to \$9,918.75, while the quota for the month is \$22,305. No reports were available from the Creswell and Roper post offices at this time. The local bank has sold \$7,331.25 worth of bonds, and the post office sales here amount to \$2,587.50.

Farmers who are planning to grow tomatoes for delivery to the Welaka plant at Mackeys are being advised this week that the seed has arrived and is now ready for delivery at several points in the county. The company can also handle a few more contracts, it was noted, and any farmers interested are advised to see them at once.

E. E. Harrell, owner of the Plymouth Furniture Company, is leaving tomorrow for service in the Navy, but announces that his store here will continue to be operated, with T. C. Burgess as manager. Mr. Burgess has been with Mr. Harrell for a number of years and is thoroughly familiar with the business.

Increased Postage Rates Are Effective Sunday, March 26

Mail for Local Delivery Up From 2 to 3 Cents; Many Other Increases

Effective next Sunday, March 26, postage rates will be increased on most types of mail and for postal services in general, according to an announcement coming from the local post office this week. Post cards and first class mail for delivery outside the local post office area will carry the same old rates, but for the most part, rates for other mailings and services will be increased, it was explained.

The rate for handling first class mail for local delivery will be increased from 2 to 3 cents. Other rate increases to go into effect on March 26 were outlined by postal authorities as follows:

Air mail from one post office to another on the mainland of the United States, 8 cents per ounce. Air mail sent to or by the armed forces of the United States overseas served through Army and Navy post offices, will continue to be 6 cents for each half ounce.

Fourth class parcel post rates will be increased by 3 per cent. The rate (See POSTAGE RATES, Page 4)

Skinnerville Churches Have Had No Services in 4 Months, Due to Weather

Several churches in the Skinnerville section have been unable to hold their regular services for several months, due to bad weather of one sort or another, it was learned this week. The third Sunday in each month seems to have been a particularly bad time for such services since last November.

Regular services at the Rehoboth Methodist church are scheduled for each third Sunday, but it was stated that none had been held there since November of last year, although the pastor was on hand each time except December, when he was called away. In December, snow

Draft Board Will Seek Clarification of Recent Directives at Regional Meeting

A regional meeting of local selective service board members and clerks will be held at Washington next Wednesday, when officials of the state system will endeavor to clarify recent directives sent to all local boards. Robert L. Tetterton, chairman, Miss Liza Hampton, clerk, and possibly another member of the Washington County board are hoping to be able to attend.

The board here is experiencing difficulty in the reclassification of non-fathers under the age of

26 years at the present time engaged in agriculture. Recent directives received by the board indicate that very few men in this class are eligible for deferment, although some of them can show the required number of war units. It is hoped that this matter can be cleared up at the regional meeting in Washington next week, and the regular meeting of the local board will not be held next Tuesday night, pending the outcome of the meeting Wednesday.

Another County Man Reported Missing in Action in Past Week

GETS PROMOTION



Carpenter's Mate Third Class Herbert Maurice Bateman, USNR, of Plymouth, was recently promoted to that rating from seaman second class at the U. S. Navy Section Base, Savannah, Ga. He is the son of Herbert J. Bateman, of Plymouth.

Sgt. B. F. Jackson, Of Roper, Missing in Raid Over Germany

Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Jackson; Was Gunner on Heavy Bomber

Staff Sergeant Benjamin F. Jackson, young Roper man, last week became the tenth Washington County man to be reported missing or killed in line of duty with the armed forces during World War II. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Jackson, of Roper, received a telegram from the War Department last Thursday, informing them that Sergeant Jackson, gunner on a B-24 Liberator, had been missing in action over Germany since February 24th.

Sergeant Jackson was 23 years old and had been in the Army Air Forces since August 28, 1942. He graduated as an airplane mechanic on January 21, 1943, at Gulfport Field, Miss. Afterwards he completed a course in gunnery at Harlingen, Texas, and was promoted to staff sergeant. He was assigned to a Liberator bombing group and trained at Topeka, Kan., prior to going overseas to England the first of October last year.

The young man was awarded the Air Medal in December, and only recently he sent the decoration home to his parents at Roper. It is believed that he had been on a number of successful bombing missions over Germany before his ship was shot down on February 24th. His parents last heard from him about four weeks before the message was received from the War Department last Thursday. He had not been home since he entered the service in August, 1942.

Sergeant Jackson was born near Jamesville on June 2, 1920, and lived there until his parents moved to this county near Roper in 1930. He attended the Roper schools and worked on the farm with his father up to about a year before he entered the service, when he went to work here at the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company, where he was employed until he was inducted into the army. He was very popular among his classmates at school. He was a member of the Zion Chapel Christian church for about six or seven years.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Jackson, live near Roper and he also has three sisters living in that section, Mrs. Nedra Mae Biggs, Mrs. Minnie Pearl Biggs, and Miss Reba Naomi Jackson. His only brother, Pfc. Grady N. Jackson, is also in the Army, stationed at Camp Mackall.

Half-Holidays To Begin Next Month

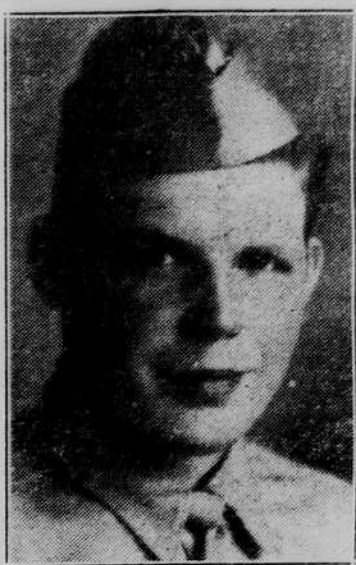
Plymouth stores will begin observance of the Wednesday afternoon half-holidays the first Wednesday in April, the 5th, it was announced this week by officers of the Plymouth Merchants Association. The weekly half holidays will continue throughout the months of April, May, June, July and August, according to present plans. This is the same program followed last year.

The half holiday each week will enable the merchants and their clerks to get a little time off for recreation, it is explained. Patrons are requested to cooperate by doing their shopping and attending to other business on Wednesdays before noon. The present schedule of hours will prevail on all other week days except Wednesdays.

Only One Case Called in County Court This Week

Only one case came before Judge W. R. Gaylord Tuesday morning in the recorder's court session. Howard Respass, white of near Plymouth, charged with seduction was held for probable cause pending trial by the superior court and placed under a \$800 bond.

MISSING IN ACTION



Private Webb Jones, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Webb Jones, of Plymouth, has been reported missing in action since January 30th. He was serving with a Ranger battalion, presumably on the Italian front.

Clean-Up Week To Lead Off Mosquito-Control Drive Here

Town and District Health Officials Cooperating To Put Program Over

Week after next, April 3-6 will be designated Clean-Up Week in Plymouth. Mayor B. G. Campbell stated yesterday. The general clean-up of the town will be undertaken as part of the mosquito control project that is to be promoted here during the coming spring and summer months.

Every person in the town is urged by town and district health department officials to do his part to help make this program effective. The success or failure of the entire project depends on getting the cooperation of everyone. Unless yards and lots are kept free of containers where water can stand, it will be useless for the town to clear cisterns and pour oil in the low places surrounding the town where water stagnates.

In this connection, Sanitary Inspector W. B. Gaylord, of the health department, advises everyone to take the following steps: (1) See that all screens are in good repair; (2) check gutters for standing water; (3) see that all waste cans are collected and carried away by the garbage truck; (4) check all fish ponds and see that a few top minnows are placed in these ponds; (5) check vacant lots for cans and holes that may hold water (fill the holes); (6) check basements for standing water; (7) cut all weeds and grasses on vacant lots; (8) keep ditch banks cleared of all growth.

If these steps are followed, Plymouth will be a much healthier and a much more pleasant place in which to live this summer. Mayor Campbell said that the town garbage trucks will make daily collections during clean-up week, and other steps will be taken for the benefit of those who cooperate in the program. It is necessary to start early in order to get ahead and stay ahead of the mosquitoes, it is emphasized.

Program Announced for Local Christian Church

Rev. E. B. Quick, Pastor Sunday school, 9:45 a.m., H. H. Allen, superintendent; Morning worship, 11, sermon subject, "Sincerity." Eighth in the series of Sunday morning sermons on the "Characteristics of Christian Love," I Corinthians, 13th chapter. Junior society meeting 3 p.m., Mrs. Rudolph Beasley, superintendent; Young people's society meeting, 6 p.m.; Evening worship, 7:30 p.m., sermon subject, "The Church With An Open Door." "Visitation Week" will begin Sunday afternoon. An effort will be made to have every family in the church visited in the interest of our pre-Easter evangelistic services. Choir rehearsal, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

Fishing Season Closes April 11

The closed season for fishing in the creeks and lakes of this section will begin on April 11 and continue through May 19, it was announced this week by County Game Protector J. T. Terry. The restrictions do not apply to commercial fishing waters, such as Roanoke River, but they do apply to practically all creeks in the county.

Hinton James, fish and game commissioner for the State Department of Conservation and Development, said the season was originally supposed to be closed on April 6, but that the date was moved up to the 11th to permit fishing through Easter Monday, which is April 10.

Group of Local Men Seek Improvement Of School Conditions

Believed Situation Here Justifies Some Measure of State Aid

Investigating conditions in the local schools, a group of men here last week decided to organize a civic improvement committee in an effort to see if something could be done to better the situation. In view of peculiar circumstances concerning the problem here, it is felt that the support of state officials may be sought for alleviation of the deplorable conditions now existing.

It was learned that the local school will lose two teachers next term, due to drop in average daily attendance. The attendance problem is complicated by a woeful lack of facilities, due to conditions of the local buildings, which are overcrowded, poorly heated, and insanitary in some respects. One of the buildings, which is housing the primary grades, has been condemned by the state fire marshal as unsafe, yet must be used daily because no other quarters are available.

In the high school building, it has been necessary to hold classes in the basement, which is not at all suitable. In addition, two makeshift classrooms have been made out of part of the auditorium, and the remainder—without heating facilities—is used a large part of each day as a study hall.

Despite repairs and efforts of school authorities, the heating plant at the high school building is totally inadequate, and during much of the cold weather last winter the temperature in some of the classrooms never rose above 50 degrees while classes were in session. Pupils and teachers alike were forced to keep on their coats, galoshes and hats, and the cold rooms constitute a serious menace to health conditions.

The toilets in the basement of the high school building are described as inadequate, and much of the time water stands on the floors, despite all efforts of the principal and janitor. Another complication to the attendance problem has been the irregularity of bus schedules, due to the fact that the five busses are forced to cover eight routes, which means double runs for some of them. Indifference of the parents of some children is a contributing cause, it was learned.

Inadequacy of the plant here is due in large measure to the war. Arrangements had been nearly completed to erect a new building and repair the present high school building when the war broke out and all building was halted. A WPA project to do the work was cancelled at the same time.

The complicated local situation which people here believe merits state aid was brought about by the coming of the pulp mill to this section. The mill itself was built in Martin County, while most of its employees live and have their children educated in Plymouth. This means that several hundred children were brought here and swamped the local school, while the county received no additional tax revenue from the mill with which to provide additional facilities.

The group of men who organized the civic improvement group last week hope to secure the cooperation of the county board of education and county commissioners in presenting an appeal to state officials for outside aid in solving the problem. Further progress along this line will be reported as developments occur.

Colored School Here Ransacked Sunday

The local colored school was broken into and several offices ransacked early Sunday morning. The intruders gained entrance through a window, chiseled the locks off two offices and scattered papers around in what is believed to have been a search for money. The only article missed was a stop-watch used by the basketball team.

The robbery was discovered by Shelton Bowser, the janitor. He notified A. R. Lord, principal of the school, who called in officers. There were no clues to the perpetrators. In addition to ruining the two locks, the robbers also damaged the doors to the two offices.

Services Announced for Grace Episcopal Church

The regular order of services has been scheduled for Passion Sunday, March 26, according to an announcement by the Rev. William B. Daniels, rector of Grace Episcopal Church. Services will be held as follows: Church school, 9:45 a.m.; Morning prayer and sermon, 11 a.m.; Young People's Service League, 7 p.m.; Evening prayer and sermon, 8 p.m. Lenten services will be held each week day, Monday through Friday, at 5:35 in the afternoon. Another service will be held on Wednesday night at 8 o'clock.

Expect To Pass Red Cross \$5,000 Quota Before End of Week

GETS PROMOTION



Charles H. Bagley, Jr., was recently promoted to the grade of sergeant in an anti-aircraft battery at Camp Hulen, Texas. Sergeant Bagley was reared by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Lamm, of the Pleasant Grove section. He was 18 years of age last April and entered the service in June.

Splendid Response Received From All Sections of County

Final Meeting of Canvassers To Be Held at Red Cross Rooms Friday Night

The \$5,000 goal of the Red Cross War Fund Campaign in Washington County is just about in sight, it was learned yesterday afternoon from John W. Darden, chairman of the county chapter, after he had visited several communities in the interest of the drive. At that time, Mr. Darden said incomplete reports indicated some \$4,800 had been collected in all sections of the county. Canvassers in the lagging sections promised to go to work with renewed interest when they learned how close the county was to its goal.

Snep Brinkley, of Plymouth, announces that the final meeting of canvassers will be held in the Red Cross rooms Friday night at 7:30 to complete the reports. He asks all workers to be present at this final meeting. Mr. Brinkley announced that several good-sized contributions had been received in the past few days from various firms and organizations, including \$300 from the North Carolina Pulp Company, \$40 from the Virginia Electric and Power Company, \$36 from the M. W. Bryant colored school in the Skinnerville section, and others.

A partial list of contributors to the fund appears in this issue of The Roanoke Beacon, and the list will be continued in future issues until all contributions have been acknowledged.

The total amount collected was boosted substantially this week by reports from Creswell that \$460 had been raised among the white people of that community, while colored people there expect to raise their \$150 quota within the next week. This will put the Scuppernon community "over the top" on its quota of \$600.

(See RED CROSS, Page 4)

Five Men in Contest For U. S. Senator; Three for Governor

Filing for State and Congressional Offices Ended Last Saturday

The State Board of Elections, meeting in Raleigh last Saturday, at 6 p.m., certified a list of 40 Democratic and 29 Republican candidates for State and Congressional offices in the May 27 primaries. There will be Republican primary contests for two state offices—lieutenant governor and treasurer—and a congressional race in the tenth district.

Last-minute filings by three Democratic candidates for state offices provided the only excitement during the day Saturday. The last-minute filers were W. N. Crawford, of Greensboro, for secretary of state; Fred S. Hunter, of Huntersville, for state auditor; and L. J. Phipps, of Chapel Hill, for state treasurer. Earlier in the day Giles Yeoman Newton, of Gibson, filed for the United States Senate; and James T. Lyda, of Greensboro, filed for lieutenant governor.

Newton's filing brings about a five-man race for the Democratic nomination to succeed U. S. Senator R. R. Reynolds. The other candidates are Clyde R. Hoey, of Charlotte; Cameron Morrison, of Charlotte; Marvin

(See STATE POLITICS, Page 4)

Services To Be Held at Concord This Week-End

Announcement was made this week by church officials that services will be held on the fourth Saturday and Sunday in March (25th and 26th) at Concord Primitive Baptist church, between Creswell and Cherry. Elder S. Gray is pastor. The public is cordially invited to attend.

W. T. Arrants Opening Store at Little Richwood

W. T. Arrants is announcing the opening of a grocery and market at Little Richwood Village today. It is located at No. 12 Pine Street, and he is asking the people of the section to give him a trial. He will carry a full line of staple and fancy groceries, as well as such native and western meats as are available.

Local Man Is Commended for Bravery During Navy Amphibious Operation

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Snell, of Plymouth, this week received copy of a letter of commendation sent to their son, Coxswain Joseph C. Snell, by the commander of a Navy amphibious force operating in foreign waters. The letter recites the fact that young Snell, at that time a first-class seaman, "did assist materially in rescue work" after the ship to which he was attached had struck a mine. The letter continues:

"2. With complete disregard for your own safety you jumped into mine-infested waters, during complete darkness, and rescued a British soldier from drowning. "3. Your cool courage and

lack of regard for personal safety are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Naval Service and for this you are hereby commended.

"4. Your commanding officer is directed to make proper notation of this commendation in your service record."

The young man was promoted to the grade of coxswain since the incident above referred to occurred. He entered the Naval service in October, 1942, and has been overseas for about 11 months. Very popular during his high school days in Plymouth, Coxswain Snell has many friends here who are gratified and proud of the exceptional record he is making in the Navy.