Parents of two Plymouth Marines

received word this week that their

Kathleen Spruill Nobles received the

information from her son, William;

and Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Ayers heard

from their son, C. E. Ayers, jr. Although both are in the Pacific area,

The list of North Carolina soldiers

wounded in action in the Mediter-

ranean area, issued Wednesday by the

War Department, carried the name

of Pfc. Thomas J. Varner, son of Mrs

George A. Detamore, of Plymouth

The extent of his injuries could not

It was learned here last Sunday

that Dr. and Mrs. S. V. Lewis, for-

merly of Plymouth, lost all of their

furniture, which was stored in a

Rocky Mount warehouse destroyed by

fire last Friday night. Dr. Lewis was

formerly head of the district health

Next Sunday, May 14, is Mo-

ther's Day and will be so observ-

ed with special sermons in all

local churches, it was announced

this week by the various minis-

"Skipper" James W. Norman, of

the Norman Furniture Company, has

been in High Point since the first of

the week, trying to find something

to buy at the furniture market. He

is expected to return sometime today

Shep Brinkley, chairman of the

Red Cross War Fund Drive, conclud-

ed recently in Washington County,

announced this week that a contri-

bution of \$5 had been received re-

cently from Mr. and Mrs. R. I. Col-

So far the fire siren has re-

mained mute since announce-

ment was made last week by

Mayor Campbell, Fire Chief War-

ren and Police Chief Brown that

it would be sounded for five

minutes as soon as the Allied in-

vasion of continental Europe is

officially announced. However,

local people are reminded not to

be confused by the lengthy signal

when it is sounded to mark the

start of the greatest military ope-

ration in the history of the world.

diers are moving out now.

Agriculture Building here.

Jas. W. Norman on

that James W. Norman had been ap-

pointed a member of the county board

of education to serve out the unex-

man of the County ABC Board.

department here.

or tomorrow.

lins, of Mackeys.

Pacific war zone.

be learned here this morning.

they are in different units.

sons had arrived safely at overseas bases in the Pacific war zone. Mrs.

ESTABLISHED 1889

VOLUME LV—NUMBER 19

Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Thursday, May 11, 1944

#### Postmaster Explains Changes Made in Postage Rates on Air Mail Recently

Postmaster J. C. Swain said yesterday that there still was considerable confusion regarding regarding air-mail postage rates, especially on air mail for the armed forces. He issues the following memorandum:

"The postage rate on air mail for delivery in the United States is 8 cents per ounce. This domestic rate applies to all air mail addressed to both civilians and members of the armed forces within this country.

The postage rate on air mail for members of the armed forces overseas is 6 cents per halfounce. This applies to letters addressed to any member of the armed forces overseas who receives his mail through an Army or Navy post office; that is, to all who have A. P. O. or F. P. O. numbers as part of their address-

#### **Most Schools To** Close on May 19th

Practically all Washington County Schools, both white and colored, will end their 1943-44 terms on Friday of next week, May 19, it was stated this week by H. H. McLean, county superintendent of public instruction. The Plymouth schools constitute about the only exception, he said, and they will close on the Tuesday following, May 23.

Commencement progams have just about been completed and are being announced in other columns of this paper. Various exercises will be held throughout the coming week, with graduating programs at several schools set for Friday night of next

#### William S. (Bill) Davenport, son of Plymouth and Mackeys, was recently promoted from the grade of radio w. T. Robbins Died technician first class to chief radio technician first class to chief radio technician in the U.S. Naval Reserve. At Daughter's Home Chief Davenport is on duty in the

In Failing Health for Five Years

W T. Robbins, 79 years of age, wellknown retired farmer of Washington County, died here last Friday afternoon at 1 o'clock after a period of declining health that had continued for about five years. He had been condaughter, Mrs. Edward Long, for only two days before the end came.

Basnight, of the local "force," were 1865. He came to this county about having a friendly discussion about the relative merits of the Army and near Plymouth since that time. He followed in and gram announcing his death was sent to his mother, Mrs. Queenie M. Dav-Navy this week. "Better take the retired from farming about the mid-enport, 412 South Seventh Street, Army when you are drafted," said dle of the twenties and worked at the Foy. "But, Man," Paul objected, "I Hampton Fisheries after that for like them boats." "Huh," huhed about 15 years until they suspended Foy, "You take the Army and you'll operations some four years ago.

get on them boats soon enough." Mr. Robbins was a member of the The consensus is that Foy "ain't just Free Will Baptist church at Corinth. a-saying that, either," the way sol-He was married in Beaufort County in January, 1890, to Miss Nancy Gurkin, who preceded him to the grave Mrs. Barbara Fink, of Washington, several years ago. has succeeded Mrs. Lewis Sawyers as

He is survived by two sons, C. T. assistant clerk in the office of the Washington County Selective Serv- Robbins and C. M. Robbins, both of Four Advanced To Second Plymouth: five daughters, Mrs. Edward Long and Mrs. Lucy Biggs, of Miss Miriam Ausbon has succeed- Plymouth; Mrs. J. W. Grimes, of ed Mrs. Herbert Chesson as chief Parmele; Mrs. W. J. Perry, of Portsclerk in the office of the Agricultural mouth, Va.; Mrs. G. R. Strickland, Adjustment Administration in the of Middlesex; and 19 grandchildren.

The funeral was held last Sunday afternoon at the home of his daugh-**Board of Education** E. G. Arps, chairman of the Wash- dens. ington County Democratic Executive

Committee, was notified yesterday Inventory Required of Ration-Freed Products

Distributors, wholesalers and repired term of P. M. Arps, who resigned February 1 to become chair- tailers are reminded by the local ra- candles representing the Scout Law tioning board that they are required and Scout Pledge were lighted. Mr. The appointment was made, on the to make an inventory as of May 4th Jenkins presented second-class badgrecommendation of the county Demo- of all commodities which were re- es to Tenderfeet Rogers Byrd, Jean cratic executive committee, on moved from point-rationing as of McMillan, James Polk Spruill, and Wednesday. It is understood that that date. This applies principally Hugh Modlin. Second-Class Scout the appointment becomes effective as to meat handlers. The dealers are soon as Mr. Norman qualifies by tak- required to keep such inventory records in their files for inspection.

#### County Fell Down on Its Bond Quota For April by Little More Than \$3,000

Washington County fell down on its War Bond quota for the month of April by exactly \$3,-080.50, it was learned this morning from H. E. Beam, chairman of the County War Finance Committee. Total sales at the four issuing points amounted to \$19,-224.50, while the quota for the month was \$22,305, Mr. Beam

Last month's report was featured by the comparatively large sale at the Roper post office, \$4,162.50 worth of bonds having been sold by that agency. The bank here continued to show the way, however, with sales amounting to \$9,868.25 for the month.

The Creswell post office reported outh post office sold \$4,575 worth. April is one of the few months that the county fell down on its quota since they were first assigned two years ago, but it marked the second consecutive month of failure.

No quota has been assigned to the county this month, and Mr. Beam said sale were proceeding very slowly. The Fifth War Loan Drive will begin June 10th, and it is expected the county will have a larger quota than the \$262,000 goal assigned for the Fourth Loan campaign in Febru-

#### Plymouth Colored Man First of Race To Die in Action

Pfc. Alfred Davenport Was Killed in Action April 16 On Bougainville

Private First Class Alfred J. Davenport, colored, of Plymouth, was killed in action in Bougainville on April 16th, his grandmother, Jennie M. Moore, 570 Madison Street, was informed in a letter received Tuesday from the acting Adjutant General of the United States Army. Private Davenport is the sixteenth man and the first among the colored race from this county to be reported missing or killed in the service of their country during the present war.

Davenport was the son of Fred and Queenie M. Davenport, of Plymouth. and was born here on December 31. 1922. His father now lives here. non, N. Y. For some years before he went into the Army on January 8, 1943, Private Davenport lived on Here Last Friday Madison Street with his grandparents, Noah and Jennie Moore.

Formerly he worked as truck driv-79 Years of Age; Had Been er delivering wood for his grandfather, but he had been employed at the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company as a laborer for several months before going into the service. He had never been in trouble of any kind, and was respected as a hard worker by members of both races

The text of the letter received by his grandmother Tuesday from Brig. fined to his bed at the home of his Gen. Robert H. Dunlop, acting Adjutant General, is as follows:

furlough from an Army camp in Pennsylvania, and Policeman Paul Basnight, of the local "force" were "It is with regret that I am writfantry, who was killed in action on 16 April 1944 in Bougainville. A tele-(See FIRST OF RACE, Page 4)

#### Six Scouts Receive **Recognition at Court** Of Honor Last Week

Class and One to First Class Rank Friday

Six members of the local Boy Scout Bragg troop received insignia of advanced rank at the Court of Honor held in the court room here last Friday night. ter, Mrs. Edward Long, in Plymouth, The Rev. T. R. Jenkins, pastor of the by the Rev. T. R. Jenkins, pastor of Methodist church, presided over the the local Methodist church, assisted court, while Assistant Scout Execuby the Rev. Lee A. Phillips, Baptist tive Norman Scrivener, of Greenminister here. Interment was made ville, and Scoutmaster Lee A. Philin the Methodist cemetery at Dar- lips, of the local troop, assisted and

> lowing a ceremony in which the 15 Jack Booker was advanced to firstclass rank and given his insignia by Mr. Phillips. The boys' mothers pinned their new insignia on them. It is hoped by local Scout officials that at least one patrol will attend a five-county camporee in Williamston the last three days of next week. Starting Friday evening, the camporee will continue through Sunday with representatives of Beaufort, Martin, Washington, Pitt and Bertie to take part.

#### Willie J. Patrick, of Roper, Is Promoted To Sergeant

Mitchell Field, N. Y -- Promotion of Willie J. Patrick, of Roper, N. C. Route 1, to sergeant in the Army Air Forces was announced recently at this Long Island Army air base.

Sergeant Patrick is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Patrick, also of Roper, and entered the service in April, 1942. Formerly employed as manager of the Spur Distributing Company, of Norfolk, Va., he is now an aircraft armament inspector in

# In Atlantic Area But Two Weeks Off

Maritime Service; Missing Since April

Mrs. C. W. Hardison, of near Roper, Walter Knight, of Norfolk, Va., who wrote Mrs. Hardison that he is miss- or something.

Mr. Knight was only 18 years old, First Christian church in Norfolk.

liked by many people in this section, outh. who join with his parents and other rescue may be received soon.

time service last y ar. He was last tion, of New York City.

#### Largest Contingent 1922. His father now lives here, of Colored Selectees while his mother lives in Mount Ver-Leaves Here Friday

Go To Fort Bragg for Pre-Induction Txams; 39 From Plymouth

Washington County's largest con-tingent of colored selectees will leave tingent of colored selectees will leave tomorrow (Friday) morning to get their pre- induction physical exami-nations at the reception center in Fort Bragg, it was learned yesterday at the office of a local draft board. Upwards of a hundred men have been ordered to report at the office of the draft board at 10 o'clock, and they will get underway for Fort Bragg

called from this county are classed as "pre-Pearl Harbor" fathers, while there are 14 non-fathers in the number, plus a lew transfers whose class is not known. Plymouth again is called on to furnish upwards of half place of residence. Roper is next, with 23; Creswell is sending 14; and Mackeys gets a call for 7.

It was stated at the office of the board here that a great many of those scheduled to leave tomorrow are between the ages of 26 and 30, the 18 to 26 class having been largely exhausted in prior calls. Quite a number come from farms, but it is possible that some of them will be placed in deferred classifications later, if they pass the examination at Fort

Following is the list of those ordered to report here Friday morning: From Plymouth:

From Plymouth: Perlie Lee Phelps, Phillip Abraham Davis, Eddie Jan-ette, Joseph Towe, Willie Blount, Wil-liam Walter Jones, Junius Remus Brown, John Folk, Freeman Weward ville, and Scoutmaster Lee A. Phillips, of the local troop, assisted and presented the awards. About 15 parents and members of the troop committee were present in addition to the Scouts.

A Tenderfoot badge was presented to Windell Ange by Mr. Scrivener, following a ceremony in which the 15 parents of the lowing a ceremony in which the 15 parents of the lowing a ceremony in which the 15 parents of the lowing a ceremony in which the 15 parents of the lowing a ceremony in which the 15 parents of the local troop, assisted and Davenport, Burk Hoggard, Cleophus McNair, Gabriel Smith, Willie Randolph Hudson, Marcellous Roosevelt Brooks, Leroy Moore, Alfonzy Vaughn C. D. Chesson, Walter Bell, Edmund Lee Lacy, James Columbia Bullock, Willie Lee McNair, Edward Alexander Davenport, Burk Hoggard, Cleophus McNair, Gabriel Smith, Willie Randolph Hudson, Marcellous Roosevelt Brooks, Leroy Moore, Alfonzy Vaughn C. D. Chesson, Walter Bell, Edmund Lee Lacy, James Columbia Bullock, Willie Lee McNair, Edward Alexander Davenport, Joseph Willis Parker, Lewis Henry Hines, General Lee Puckett, Arthur Winfred Parker, Boss Puckett, Arthur Winfred Parker, Boss Reid, William Henry Wooden, Willie

(See DRAFT LIST, Page 4)

#### Rationing Guide For Coming Week

Processed Foods: Blue A8 through Q8 (Book 4) now valid at 10 points each, for use with tokens. Good indefinitely.

Meats and fats: Red A8 through T8 (Book 4) now valid at 10 points each, for use with tokens. Good indefinitely.

Sugar: Sugar stamp No. 30 and 31 (Book 4) good for five pounds indefinitely. Canning Sugar: Sugar stamp No. 40 good for five pounds of

canning sugar until February 28, 1945. Apply to local boards for supplemental rations. Shoes: Airplane Stamp No. 1 and No. 2 (Book 3) valid indefi-

Gasoline: A-10 coupons now valid and will expire August 8. Rationing rules now require that every car owner write his license number and state in advance on all gasoline coupons in his pos-

Former Roper Man Was in Second Primary Forecast to Determine Nominee for Representative

Politics may be seething under the received a letter Tuesday stating that surface, but there is little indication her nephew, Edward Earl Knight, of of very much heat in the pre-primary the Merchant Marine, had been miss- campaigns now being waged in this ing in action since April, 1944, in the county. There will be but two con-Atlantic area. Mr. Knight made his tests on the county ballot in the Demhome with his aunt near Roper for ocratic primary now only a little more several years before going into the than two weeks away, and very little Maritime Service in October of last is being heard about them, although year. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. all six candidates are said to be busy "beating the bushes"-or their gums.

Few observers think there will be a clear-cut decision in the threehaving been born on March 7, 1925, cornered race for county representa-He is the oldest of six children of Mr. tive. Since a candidate must secure and Mrs. Knight. For a number of a majority of the votes cast to seyears he has been a member of the cure the nomination, it is regarded as fairly certain that a second primary While living at the home of his will be required. The three candiaunt near Roper, he attended both dates for this office are Ben A. Sumthe Plymouth and Roper High ner, incumbent, Edward L. Owens Schools, and he is well known and and W. H. (Jack) Peele, all of Plym-

In the second district contest for relatives in the hope that news of his State Senators, there are three candidates for the two offices to be filled. He returned to N rfolk in 1942 and two of them from this county. Zeb worked at the Nav. Yard as an ap- Vance Norman and W. Roy Hampprentice until he went into the Mari- ton, of Plymouth, are the local contenders, while the third candidate, E. reported on a ship belonging to the A. Daniel, of Beaufort County, is an Paul Hamilton Steamship Corporaincumbent seeking his second trem.

Of Merchants Group down while on bombing missions over
Germany, while the other was serv-There are seven counties in the district, Washington, Dare, Hyde, Tyrand all three of the candidates are said to have their friends at work in

Since it is customory in the district o allow each senator to serve two terms, and also because it would be against tradition to elect two sanators from the same county, the senatorial race is generally regarded as a contest between Mr. Norman and Mr. Hampton. The backers of both local men seem to be satisfied with the present outlook, so it is probable that a close vote will be the result.

In the state races, there is some activity in the county on the part of reelected to her present position. backers of Major Gregg Cherry, Gastonia candidate for governor, under the leadership of Eugene F. Still, chairman of the Cherry-for-Governor committee. So far, there has been no organized work for Dr. Ralph W. McDonald, the Winston-Salem candidate, who carried the county in the second primary in 1936 against Clyde

(See CANDIDATES, Page 4)

#### Local Man Attached not have a line convenient. Since among a group of prisoners taken in the town has extended its sew- Italy. To Leading Fighter the quota, 39 listing this as their Group of Air Forces

Sgt. Robert Serena Member Hospitalized After Gentile's Outfit

Sergeant Robert Serena, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Serena, of Oakford Avenue, Plymouth, is member of a ground crew attached to one of the most famous fighter groups in the European Theatre of Operations, it was learned this week by a special from the public relations office at headquarters of the United States

Strategic Air Forces in Europe. General Dwight D. Eisenhower recently visited the P-51 Mustang base at which Sergeant Serena is stationed and told personnel that they would be called upon to keep the planes flying from dawn to dusk during the in-

vasion General Eisenhower, supreme Allied invasion commander, spent several hours on the base inspecting equipment and chatting with officers and men. He pinned Distinguished Service Crosses on Col. Donald J. M. Blakeslee, 26, of Fairport Harbor, Ohio, the commanding officer of the base, and on Capt. Don S. Gentile, 23, of Piqua. Ohio, who has destroyed 23 enemy aircraft aloft and 7 on the

General Eisenhower was accompanied by Lt. Gen. Carl Spaatz, Lt. Gen. James Doolittle, Maj. Gen. William E. Kepner (VIII Fighter Command chief), and Brig. Gen. Lesse Auton.

Colonel Blakeslee's Mustang group is presently credited with the de struction of more enemy aircraft than than any other fighter group in the European Theatre of Operations.

Peanut Plant Is Being Closed Last of Week

The Farmers Cotton and Peanut Company will shut down its plant the last of this week, it was learned from J. E. Davenport, one of the partners, Monday. It will probably not reopen until peanuts from the new crop begin moving late in October.

The firm has handled more peanuts than ever before during the season drawing to a close. Last year, the plant closed down for the season in March, it was stated. All peanuts stocks on hand were frozen by the government last week-end,

#### Edward E. Knight County Candidates Cards Received From Missing in Action Busy With Primary Trio County Men Now Prisoners in Germany

# Day To Register

Saturday of this week, May 13, is the last day to register in order to vote in the Democratic or Republican primaries on May 27, county citizens were reminded this week by Walter W. White, chairman of the board of elections. It is not necessary for those who have registered and voted to previous elections to register again, but those who have come of age, or who have moved their place of residence from one precinct to another since they last voted, must get their names on the books before they are closed Saturday in order to cast a ballot on May 27.

Saturday of next week, May 20. will be challenge day.

## Leland S. Thompson Is Named President

rell, Martin, Beaufort and Pamlico, Miller Warren Is Vice President: Other Matters Considered

> Leland S. Thompson was elected president of the Plymouth Merchants Association at the regular meeting held Monday night. Miller Warren was elected vice president and Mrs. Kathreen Lang, secretary. The new officers will assume their duties next month, succeeding H. H. Allen and W. H. Peele, who served during the past year as president and vice president, respectively. Mrs. Lang was

cussed at the meeting, and the mer- February 24. The card they rechants unanimously passed a resolu- ceived last week was dated March 1. tion asking the county commission- only six days after he was reported ers to favorably consider connecting missing. the county home sewer line to the town sewer system, in order to pro- tified officially by the War Departmote better sanitary and health con- ment on March 13 that their son, ditions in that neighborhood.

then, the town has extended its sew- Italy. er line right past the county home. All three of the cards refor flies and mosquitoes.

## 22 Months in Pacific

Sergeant Pearly Craddock, of the U. S. Army, recently returned to the United States and is now in a hospital in California, it was learned this week from his sister, Mrs. Herbert S. Ange. dispatch to The Roanoke Beacon of near Plymouth. Sergeant Craddock spent 22 months in the Pacific war zone, and was in action on Bougainville Island for three and a half months before he was evacuated to the hospital in California.

His brother, Private Leslie Craddock, is also in the Army somewhere overseas. They are sons of A. Craddock, of near Plymouth.

Chaplain John S. Armfield Given Promotion in Navv

Creswell.-Word has been received here of the recent promotion of John S. Armfield, U. S. Naval Reserve, from the rank of lieutenant (j.g.) to lieutenant senior grade.

duty in the Pacific war theatre on ing of the Parent-Teacher Associaboard a naval vessel. Before he en- tion, of the current term will be held tered the Navy he was rector of St. Thursday. May 11, at 8:15 p.m. At Paul's Epscipal church in Green- this time the officers for the coming ville. His wife, the former Margaret year will be installed, committees Ann Swain, of Creswell, is now a will be appointed and general school member of the Creswell school facul- plans for the coming year will be made. A large attendance is urged.

#### Saturday Is Last Two Were Gunners On Bombers; Other With Troops in Italy

Webb Jones, Woodrow Collins and Benj. F. Patrick Write Parents

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. (Dock) Robertson, of near Plymouth received a card since noon today from their son, Tech. Sgt. Benjamin W. Robertson, stating that he was safe and uninjured in a German prison camp. Sgt. Robertson, gunner on a heavy bomber, was reported missing in action over Germany since March 8th. The card was dated four days later, March 12.

Within the past two weeks, the parents of three Washington County men reported missing in action during recent months have received cards directly from the missing men. stating that they were prisoners of war in Germany. Two of them were gunners on heavy bombers shot down while on bombing missions over ing with a Ranger battalion in Italy when he was captured.

The cards were received by Mr. and Mrs. Webb Jones, sr., of Plymouth, parents of Private Webb Jones; Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Jackson, of Roper, parents of Staff Sergeant Benjamin F. Jackson; and Mr. and Mrs. R. I. Collins, of Mackeys, parents of Staff Sergeant Woodrow Collins.

Sergeants Jackson and Collins were gunners on heavy bombers lost in raids over Europe. Mr. and Mrs. Collins were notified February 20 that Sergeant Collins had been missing since February 5. The card received last week by his parents was dated March 9. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson were notified March 16 that Serg-Several other matters were dis- eant Jackson had been missing since

Mr. and Mrs. Webb Jones were no-Private Webb Jones, had been miss-It was explained to the merchants ing since January 30th, but previousthat when the county home's sewer ly the German short-wave radio had system was installed, the town did listed his name and serial number as

and as the county's present sewer line parents of the young men were very empties on land back of the county similar in nature. The messages home, it constitutes a breeding place were printed in pencil on a form card, and bore the stamps of both German and U. S. Army censors. All three of them stated they were uninjured, in good health and requested their families not to worry. Following is the text of two of the messages while the other is not available:

> From Sergeant Collins: Mother: I am a prisoner of war in Germany. Do not worry. In best of health. The Red Cross can tell you what you can send. Send cigarettes and can food. Send as soon as possible. Tell my friends to write. There are many boys here I know. Love. Woodrow." The card was dated March 9, 1944. His address was listed as follows: "S/Sgt. W. R. Collins: Gefangennummer: 144488; Lager-Bezeichnung: Stalg Luft-3, Lager-E; Deutschland (Allemagne).'

> From Sergeant Jackson: "Dear Mom and Dad: Am safe and uninjured, so don't worry. Don't write until I send permanent address, which will be soon. Tell Neta and everyone Hello. Get information on

> > (See PRISONERS, Page 4)

### P. T. A. Tonight at 8

It was announced by Principal R. Chaplain Armfeld is at present on B. Trotman today that the last meet-

#### L. W. Gurkin Getting Everything Set For Albemarle Beach Opening May 27

L. W. Gurkin, owner of Albemarle Beach, about 7 miles from Plymouth on Albemarle Sound, said Monday that he had been busy getting the resort ready for the formal opening on Friday night, May 26. He has had some of the buildings painted and repairs made and is looking forward to a very successful sea-

son this year. Hal Thurston and His Orchestra, of Rocky Mount, will provide music for the opening dance on the 26th. Mr. Gurkin said that every Friday night during the season, while on all other nights. music for dancing will be provided by recordings.

Albemarle Beach had its most successful year last season, despite gasoline rationing. Dancing. bathing and boating are the principal features of the resort, and it is also very popular as a place for picnics and parties. Mr. Gurkin said he would have a number of cottages for rent again this year.