

TOWN TOPICS

A special church conference will be held at the Methodist church here during the regular service Sunday morning to discuss plans for building the new parsonage, it was announced this morning. Every member of the church is urged to be present.

Fire Chief Miller Warren and Bill Darden are attending the Eastern Carolina Fire College and Drill School being held in Greenville today. It is being conducted by Sheriff Brockwell, of Raleigh, state fire marshal, and will continue through tomorrow, although the local men plan to attend only the sessions today.

Chief of Police P. W. Brown can just about qualify as a rain-maker now, in addition to his other duties. He said yesterday that every time he had the flags put out on the streets here, it would start to rain. However, the shower that started yesterday stopped before he could get the flags in; and, if his system really works, it would be all right with everyone here to put out the flags and let'em stay until a really substantial rain falls.

Lieutenant and Mrs. Leslie B. Sprull are visiting Lieutenant Sprull's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan W. Sprull, near Roper, this week. Lieutenant Sprull is attached to an Army ordnance unit and is stationed in Cincinnati, Ohio. He has been in the service about three and a half years, spending 13 months in western and northern Africa before he returned to the United States last year to attend an officers' school at Duke University, where he received his commission.

Lloyd Williams, manager of the local Pender's store for the past several months, was transferred to Washington Monday of this week. W. C. Burden, of Wilson, formerly manager of the Pender store in Belhaven, arrived Monday to take over the duties of manager here.

Quite a number of letters dated since the invasion started are being received by county people from relatives stationed with the armed forces in England. However, so far as could be learned here this morning, no mail has been received from anyone from this county who actually took part in the initial landings in France.

One of our local ladies was trying to make up her mind whether to buy any peaches here Monday, the price of which had been quoted to her as \$5 per bushel by the farmer who brought them to town. "Farm products," she complained, "certainly cost a great deal more than they used to." "Yes, ma'am," the seller agreed, "when a farmer has to know the botanical name of what he is raising, the zoological name of the insect that eats it, and the chemical name of what kills the insect, somebody's got to pay."

Lue Read had the misfortune to have one of his thumbs caught in an ice crushing machine at Arps Pharmacy last Sunday, mangleing it to some extent. He was given first-aid by Dr. Papineau, and the injured digit is steadily improving.

Crops Near Here Damaged by Hail

Comparatively Small Area South of Plymouth Hit Tuesday Afternoon

Considerable damage was done by a sudden hail storm in the Vann Swamp section about 8 or 10 miles south of Plymouth Tuesday afternoon. Starting around 1 o'clock, it was said the hail continued steadily for about 15 minutes. Cotton and tobacco crops in the region were seriously damaged.

Walter S. Bowen said Tuesday night that he had about 18 acres of tobacco almost completely destroyed, besides 8 acres of cotton and considerable damage to corn. He said the hail was not large, but that it lasted an unusually long time. Windows in one of his tenant houses were broken out. He carried insurance on his tobacco crop, but none on the others.

Independence Day, Next Tuesday, Will Be Observed as General Holiday Here

Next Tuesday, July 4th, will be observed as a general holiday in most business establishments in Plymouth except at the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company, which will continue operations as usual. The Plymouth Box & Panel Co., bank, post office, ABC store, town and county offices, and practically all other places of business except drug stores and filling stations will be closed all day.

Local stores which have been observing the mid-week half

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First Series of Stock In Building and Loan To Mature Saturday

Must Turn in Old Tires and Tubes

Mrs. J. K. Reid, clerk to the local war price and rationing board, this week cautioned motorists in the county to be sure to turn in an old tire or tube whenever they purchased a new one. Those who order their tires from mail-order houses must turn in their old tires or tubes to a junk dealer within 10 days after removal from their cars.

Failure to comply with the above regulations is punishable by severe penalties, Mrs. Reid said, adding that it had been reported to the board that a great many people had been neglecting to turn in their old tires and tubes when getting new ones.

\$23,500 in Cash and Stock To Be Paid Holders 235 Shares

Earnings Cut Sharply by War, But Initial Series Paid 4.7 Per Cent

Organized in November, 1937, the Plymouth Building and Loan Association will reach an important milestone in its history Saturday, when the first series of installment stock matures. There are 235 shares of stock outstanding in the first series, which means that the 16 holders will receive paid-up stock or cash to the amount of \$23,500 Saturday.

Despite all handicaps, including the advent of war in December 1941, this stock has net earnings of 4.7 per cent. Before the war intervened to halt all building and greatly restrict the field of loans, earnings had consistently been above 5 per cent.

When the association was formed on November 15, 1937, over 300 shares of installment stock were pledged by 50 persons. A few shareholders dropped out after a year or so, withdrawing the amounts they paid in. Some others pledged their stock for loans, which already have been retired. However, 16 stockholders continued to pay the weekly installments until their stock matured this week. Owners of approximately 100 shares of stock have called for the cash and will be paid \$10,000 Saturday, while owners of the other 135 shares have decided to take paid-up stock in the association, \$13,500 worth, which is now earning 2 1/2 per cent interest. Each shareholder was given his option of receiving cash or paid-up stock.

In the face of the war, which has limited its field of operations, the local association has continued to forge slowly ahead. Its total resources at this time are slightly in excess of \$100,000. The association has \$40,000 worth of Federal War Bonds, mortgage loans outstanding of \$59,521.50; stock loans of \$4,750; an emergency and contingency fund of \$1,000 and undivided profits amounting to \$8,836.94. This latter fund is to be apportioned as earnings on income.

Sanitary Inspector Finds Few Willful Violations of Law

Most People Willingly Co-operating in Mosquito-Control Program

A few isolated cases of willful failure to comply with sanitary ordinances have been uncovered here, but for the most part Plymouth people have shown a ready willingness to cooperate in cleaning up and ridding their premises of conditions favorable to mosquito breeding, J. A. Bratten, city sanitary inspector, said Tuesday night.

Mr. Bratten was employed by the town early in May, when mosquito conditions here became almost unbearable. He was directed to inspect all premises and to supervise the oiling program. He said that he had encountered no difficulty in getting local people to do their part in this work, but in some other phases of the sanitary program, the response has not been so good. The inspector declared colored people had been especially cooperative in the mosquito-control work, and he has just completed clearing ditches and drains in White City.

However, Mr. Bratten said there are still a number of hogs kept inside the city limits, which is forbidden by ordinances. In at least three instances, owners of houses that do not have water closets maintain privies that in no wise comply with sanitary regulations. Although warned, they have made no effort to remedy conditions; and, as the inspector is not sure about his authority in the matter, no action has been taken against them. He said these things would be covered in his monthly report to the city council at its next regular meeting.

Dr. A. Papineau, local physician who has taken an active interest in the mosquito-control program, and a member of the county board of health, said he believed the work had been of decided benefit. Informed of other conditions existing here, he said they constituted a real danger to the health of those who live in the vicinity. If allowed to continue unabated, they may result in increased cases of typhoid, infectious colitis, and diarrhea.

100 Attend Legion Dinner Last Week

Gold Star Parents Honored; New Officers of Post Installed

Just about 100 persons attended the American Legion banquet last Friday night, given in honor of the Gold Star parents, wives, or next of kin of Washington County men who have given their lives during the present war. Officers of the James E. Jethro Post, No. 164, which sponsored the banquet, were installed also at the meeting.

Dr. William R. Burrell, of Williamston, Baptist minister and Gold Star father and veteran of the First World War, was the principal speaker and made a splendid address to the large gathering of service men and their relatives.

Commander J. R. Carr called the meeting to order, and, following the singing of "America," the invocation was made by the Rev. Lee A. Phillips, of the local Baptist church. During the dinner, music was furnished by Mrs. R. W. Johnston.

Officers were installed by Past Commander P. Bruce Bateman, after which the new commander, Moye W. Sprull, took charge of the proceedings. Prayer was offered by the Rev. T. R. Jenkins, of the Methodist church, followed by introduction and recognition of the Gold Star parents and next of kin, president of the Legion Auxiliary, and several other special guests. Dr. Burrell was introduced by the retiring commander, J. R. Carr, and following his address the National Anthem was sung, with the benediction by the Williamston minister.

Cadet J. C. Gatlin Visiting His Mother in Creswell

Air Cadet J. C. Gatlin, Jr., arrived at his home in Creswell Sunday from Corsicana, Tex., where he has just completed his primary training for the Army Air Corps. For the next two months he will take basic training at Stewart Field, Newburgh, N. Y. Cadet Gatlin, son of Mrs. Alice M. Gatlin, of Creswell, is a first classman at the United States Military Academy, West Point, N. Y.

Peanut Growers Can Get Prisoner of War Labor for Harvest

County Allotted Average of 20 Prisoners Per Day During Season

Peanut producers of this section will again be allowed to use prisoners of war in harvesting their crops this year, according to County Agent W. V. Hays. The main difference will be that German prisoners will be used this year, instead of Italians. Mr. Hays attended a conference of county agents from peanut-producing counties held in Williamston last Thursday, when details of the prisoner-labor program were worked out.

Peanuts constitute a food crop, and special provisions for handling food crops by prisoners of war labor have been worked out, Mr. Hays said. Under these provisions peanut harvesting has priority on the use of labor even over industrial firms which employ them regularly. Three temporary prison camps are being established in the peanut-growing area, but this territory will be served by the permanent camp at Williamston.

Washington County will be allotted an average of 20 prisoners per day during the peanut harvesting season. This does not necessarily mean that 20 is the largest number that can be worked in the county on any one day, as it may be possible to draw on the allotment for some other county which is not using its full number on that particular day.

The prisoners will be paid on a piecework basis, at so much per stack, and they will be permitted to earn bonuses, it was stated, when they complete a given task and have time to spare. The rate per stack is now being worked out, and is expected to be about the same as last year, when the rate was 10 cents per stack. The farmers using the prisoners must provide transportation to and from the camp. Farmers may apply for the prisoner of war labor at the office of the county agent, and a check for the estimated amount of labor deposited at the time application is made, although it will not be cashed until the contract is completed.

Mr. Hays also said that prisoners are available for general farm work at this time, provided certain conditions are met.

County Now Has Sold About Two-Thirds "E" Bond Quota

Orchestra and Stage Star Help Sell Over \$14,000 Worth Bonds

Concerts Given in Creswell, Roper and Plymouth Yesterday

Between \$14,000 and \$15,000 worth of "E" bonds were sold yesterday in Plymouth, Roper and Creswell at the concerts given by the Naval Air Station Band from Elizabeth City. The bonds were sold immediately after the concerts by representatives of the Plymouth Theatre, and with each bond went a free ticket to the premier showing of "Cobra Woman," at the local theatre Friday afternoon and night, July 7th. About \$8,500 worth of bonds were sold in Plymouth, and slightly more than \$3,000 worth at each of the stops in Roper and Creswell.

Miss Marie Elliott, singing star of several Broadway productions, was an extra added feature at all three concerts. She sang a number of popular songs and was an instant hit with the crowds which gathered at each place. Fair-sized gatherings were present for the concerts in Roper and Plymouth, while Creswell had the largest crowd.

Miss Elliott, native of Suffolk, Va., is the granddaughter of the late Mrs. Jane Elliott, of the Skimmersville section of this county. She has had parts in several New York stage productions, including "One Touch of Venus," and, more recently, "Lady in the Dark." At the conclusion of her songs, she was presented a \$25 War Bond by a committee representing local merchants and business houses.

The orchestra from the Naval Air Station presented several selections at each stop. A space was cleared on the street in front of the band here, and a few young people danced to the music.

Following the concert, members of the orchestra were served a fried chicken dinner by a group of local ladies, headed by Mrs. B. G. Campbell as chairman. The orchestra and members of the bond-selling crew left immediately afterwards for Roper and Creswell.

GETS NAVY CROSS



Platoon Sergeant William H. Ange, U. S. Marine Corps, son of Mrs. Mattie Ange, of near Roper, on June 11 was awarded the Navy Cross for gallantry in action against the Japs on Guadalcanal in September, 1942. The decoration was presented him by Brig. Gen. Merrill A. Edson, under whom he served, at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Marine Raider Training Center.

Sgt. Wm. H. Ange Gets Navy Cross for Gallantry in Action

Received 6 Wounds While With Edson's Marine Raiders in Pacific

The Navy Cross, one of the highest decorations for gallantry in action awarded members of the Marine Corps, was presented on June 11 to Platoon Sergeant William H. Ange, former Washington County man, it was learned here this week. Sergeant Ange is the son of Mrs. Mattie Ange, and the late J. Thomas Ange, of near Roper.

The presentation was made to Sergeant Ange at Camp Joseph H. Pendleton, Marine Corps Raider Battalion Training Center, at Ocean-side, Calif., by Brigadier General Merrill A. Edson, commander of the Marine Raiders at Makin and Guadalcanal Islands, and under whom Ange was serving when he won the award. Wounded six times during the course of his fighting with Edson's Raiders, he was awarded the Order of the Purple Heart in San Diego, Calif., last July 4th.

The Navy Cross was awarded to Sergeant Ange for gallantry in action during the period from September 21 through September 26, 1942, a little over a month after American forces had first landed on Guadalcanal and Tulagi in the Solomon Islands group. Accompanying the decoration was a letter of citation from President Roosevelt for valor in action.

Sergeant Ange was home last year from the middle of May until the middle of June, recuperating from battle wounds received in the Buna section of New Guinea. He took part in a number of hand-to-hand engagements with the Nipponese, and the list of his wounds runs the entire gamut—rifle bullet in his left thigh, hand grenade fragment in left hip, shrapnel from high explosive shell in right foot, knife wound under left eye, bayonet wound in stomach, and several teeth bashed out by rifle butt.

Now 22 years old, the young man was raised near Roper and attended Roper High School. He worked at

Creswell Sailor Is Wounded in Action

Parents Informed Extent of Wounds Not Known To Navy Department

Mr. and Mrs. James Edward Haire, of Creswell, received a message from the Navy Department Tuesday of last week, informing them that their son, Henderson Wendell Haire, seaman first class, of the U. S. Navy, had been wounded in action. The extent of the young man's wounds was not known at the time. Seaman Haire entered the Navy about a year ago and has been in overseas duty for about four months. It is known that he has seen service in the North African and Sicilian campaigns, but it is not known in which theatre he was wounded.

The text of the Navy Department's telegram, signed by Vice Admiral Randall Jacobs, chief of Naval Personnel, is as follows:

"The Navy Department deeply regrets to inform you that your son, Henderson Wendell Haire, seaman first class, U. S. N. R., has been wounded in action in performance of his duty and in the service of his country. The department appreciates your great anxiety but extent of wounds not available and delay in receipt of details must necessarily be expected, but will furnish you promptly if received. To prevent possible aid to our enemies please do not divulge the name of his ship or station."

Two Induction Calls for July Received by Board

The local draft board has received two induction calls for the month of July, it was learned this week. A small number of white selectees will leave to begin service on Wednesday, July 19; while a medium-sized group of colored men will report for induction on Monday, July 10.

These men will be called up under the new plan, which becomes effective July 1. They will not know to which branch of the service they will be assigned until they arrive at the induction center. In the future, men will not be classified for the Army or Navy at the time they are examined, as in the past, but will be rejected or accepted for general service and assigned when they report for induction.

HOW WE'RE DOING

Watch This Chart "E" Bond Sales

\$130,000
\$125,000
\$100,000
\$75,000
\$50,000
\$25,000
0

5th WAR LOAN

Regular Services Sunday At Saints Delight Church

Rev. Preston Cayton, Pastor

Regular church services at Saints Delight church Sunday. Bible school at 11 a.m., W. A. Swain, superintendent; church service at 12 noon by Preston E. Cayton, pastor. Subject: "What Must I Do To Be Saved?" Service Sunday night at 8:30 o'clock.

You are invited to attend all these services. Come and bring your children to Bible school. Bring the family to church. You are always welcome at Saints Delight.

Fifth Loan Drive Has Slightly More Than Week To Go

Roper Likely To Be First Community To Reach Full Quota

Reasonably accurate figures and allowances today indicate that Washington County has sold upwards of two-thirds of its \$130,000 "E" bond quota in the Fifth War Loan Campaign, which will officially come to an end Saturday, July 8th.

Actual sales at the bank and post office in the county up to Tuesday night, the latest date for which exact figures are available, totaled \$78,230.50. Since then, an additional \$14,000 to \$15,000 worth of bonds were sold through the band concerts and movie premier ticket sales yesterday, bringing the total to more than \$90,000 as of this date, with a number of workers not heard from since Tuesday.

In the sales of all types of bonds, the county is nearing its overall quota, with more than a week to go. Up to Tuesday night, sales totaled \$119,000 of other than "E" bonds, against a quota of \$138,000; making the grand total actually sold \$197,230.50, against the overall quota of \$268,000. However, much of the shortage is in "E" bonds, which really mark the success or failure of the community in raising its quota.

T. W. Earle, county chairman, said yesterday that county workers are really doing a swell job, and he is sincerely grateful for their efforts. He asks that everyone continue on the job through next week with the determination to put over the "E" bond quota if humanly possible.

It was announced at the meeting last Friday night that Washington County has been allotted a credit of \$4,106 for "E" bonds bought by service men from the county since the first of this month. This is nearly 4 per cent of the country's "E" bond quota; and if men in the service, most of whom are getting only \$50 per month, can buy that many bonds, certainly the folks back home ought to be able to raise the difference easily. People are reminded that turning their War Stamps in

(See BOND DRIVE, Page 4)

Vehicle Stamp Sale Is Still Going Slow

Not Over 200 Sold Here To Date; Required on All Cars by Saturday

Federal use-tax stamp sales at the local post office continues at a very slow rate; especially in view of the fact that every motor vehicle is required to display the new stamp by Saturday of this week, July 1. Only about 200 have been sold at the local office thus far, most of them to industrial concerns here. Between 800 and 1,000 stamps are expected to be sold here, which means that they have been bought for only about one-fifth of the cars and trucks in this immediate section.

The stamps cost \$5 each and are valid from July 1, 1944, to June 30, 1945. Penalties are provided for failure to have a stamp on every motor vehicle, and owners are advised to get theirs before the deadline Saturday.

Last year an inspector visited Plymouth several months after the stamps were supposed to be on all cars and found a great many without them. The owners got off light at that time, simply being required to buy the stamps. It is not expected that as much leniency will be shown this year.

First Cotton Blossom Reported This Year on July 20; Earlier Than Usual

Cotton is blossoming earlier on Washington County farms this season than for many years. Starting with Tuesday of last week, the Beacon has received upwards of a dozen or more reports of blooms having been found. Last year it was around the 1st of July before as many were reported. Judging by general reports, the crop is in splendid condition at this time and about two weeks earlier than usual.

The first bloom reported found was by Joseph W. Swain, of the Roper section, on Tuesday, June 20th. It came from a four-acre field tended by Prince Webb, colored tenant. Mr. Swain said

he had about 10 acres of cotton, all of which was in very good condition at this time.

Several blossoms were reported on June 22nd, including a pink one by Melton Lamm, tenant on the W. A. Knowles farm near Roper. Bob Johnson brought in a blossom from Al Latham's Garrett Island farm that was found on the 22nd. This field was tended by Tom Vaughn, colored tenant. J. E. Haire, of Creswell, mailed in a pink blossom found in his field June 23rd, and he says he has plenty of them now, both white and red. Bill Joyner brought in several blossoms from S. D. Davis' farm on the 24th.