

VOLUME LVI—NUMBER 1

Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Thursday, January 4, 1945

ESTABLISHED 1889

Town of Plymouth Auto License Tabs Are Now on Sale at Office of City Clerk

Town automobile license tabs went on sale at the office of the city clerk here this week for the first time in about three years. All cars and trucks owned by residents of the town are required to have the tabs, and motorists are being given until February 1st to buy and have the tabs displayed. A flat charge of \$1 each is made for the town license.

When the mosquito-control program was put into effect here last spring, it was decided to again issue the town auto licenses, and the clerk was instructed

to order them for the past year. However, due to manufacturing difficulties, the town was unable to secure the tabs in time for use last year, so tags were bought for the year 1945 instead. The new license is only a shadow of its former self. It is a small metal number, 2 1/2 inches long by 1 1/4 inches wide, the same color as the State license plate. It is to be attached to the corner of the state tag. Local motorists are asked to get their tags and have them displayed before February 1.

County Tops Bond Quota 50 Per Cent; Is Nearing 'E' Goal

Final Report on Sixth War Loan Campaign Expected Next Week

Washington County is already more than 50 per cent over its overall quota for the Sixth War Loan Drive; and it is now considered probable that the county will even top its "E" bond goal of \$113,000 when all the returns are in. Total sales in the county, according to the latest available figures, show that more than \$339,000 worth of all types of bonds have been sold, while the overall quota was only \$219,000.

H. E. Beam, chairman of the War Finance committee for the county, said yesterday that known sales of "E" bonds amounted to \$105,382.50, not counting any sales at Roper and Creswell during the last few days of December or any credit for "E" bonds bought by men in the service. The county "E" bond quota was \$113,000, and the Sixth War Loan campaign ended December 30.

The latest Federal Reserve Bank report received here included sales up to December 29 and showed "E" bond sales of \$94,413.75. Since this report was issued, the local bank and post office sold an additional \$10,968.75 worth, bringing the "E" bond sales to \$105,382.50. If the county receives anything like the \$13,000 credit for bonds sold to service men it did in the Fifth War Loan last summer, it will go well over its quota. Also to be added are "E" bonds sold at the Roper and Creswell post offices for the last few days of December.

Mr. Beam said Wednesday that the final report on the campaign would be made by the Richmond Federal Reserve Bank the latter part of this week, and he expects to get the figures next Monday or Tuesday.

Following is the sales report, by bond categories, as reported to the Federal Reserve Bank up to December 29:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| "E" Bonds | \$ 94,413.75 |
| Savings Notes | 92,000.00 |
| Certif. Indebtedness | 105,700.00 |
| 1947 Notes | 10,000.00 |
| 1966-71 Bonds | 26,000.00 |
| Total | \$328,113.75 |

Superior Court Will Convene Monday for Two-Weeks Session

Judge Walter J. Bone Expected To Preside Over Mixed Term

The January term of Washington County Superior Court will get underway next Monday morning. It is scheduled for a two-weeks session, for the trial of both criminal and civil actions. Judge Q. K. Nimocks, of Fayetteville, was originally assigned to hold the court, but it is understood that an exchange is being considered, and the resident judge, Walter J. Bone, of Nashville, may be here for the opening next Monday.

The first two days have been set aside for trial of the criminal docket; while the civil calendar begins Wednesday morning and is supposed to go through Tuesday of the following week. Some revision in the calendar is possible which may eliminate the scheduled second week of the session, although this was not definitely known yesterday.

There are nine cases on the criminal docket set for trial next Monday and Tuesday. Some of them have been pending for several terms, and may be cleared from the docket by agreement with the solicitor if they are not brought to trial. The docket is as follows:

Pending for several terms, it is expected that the state will take a nol pro in two cases against J. D. Vick, Plymouth white man, charged with carnal knowledge of girls over 14 and under 16 years of age, due to absence from the county of prosecuting witnesses.

John Banks and Earl Aikens, colored, are charged with breaking and entering the ABC store at Creswell, Plymouth white man, charged with carrying a dangerous weapon.

John Banks and Earl Aikens, colored, are charged with breaking and entering the ABC store at Creswell, Plymouth white man, charged with carrying a dangerous weapon.

John Banks and Earl Aikens, colored, are charged with breaking and entering the ABC store at Creswell, Plymouth white man, charged with carrying a dangerous weapon.

John Banks and Earl Aikens, colored, are charged with breaking and entering the ABC store at Creswell, Plymouth white man, charged with carrying a dangerous weapon.

John Banks and Earl Aikens, colored, are charged with breaking and entering the ABC store at Creswell, Plymouth white man, charged with carrying a dangerous weapon.

John Banks and Earl Aikens, colored, are charged with breaking and entering the ABC store at Creswell, Plymouth white man, charged with carrying a dangerous weapon.

County Board Sets Personal Property Schedule Values

Petition for New Road Is Approved and Sent To State Authorities

All the county commissioners were present for the postponed meeting of the board here Tuesday, H. H. Allen, chairman; J. C. Knowles and Harry W. Pritchett.

The schedule of values for personal property fixed by the tax supervisor and list takers at their meeting January 4 was approved by the board, as follows: Sheep, \$4 to \$6 per head; goats, \$2 to \$4; poultry, 18 cents pound; milk cows, \$60 to \$100 per head; other cattle, 6 cents pound; No. 1 horses and mules, \$100 to \$150; No. 2 horses and mules, \$25 to \$100; meat and lard, 15 cents pound; hog, 3 cents pound.

The commissioners approved a petition, signed by 35 citizens, asking that the state take over, improve and maintain a road 1.4 miles in length, leading from highway 32 in front of the Hal Beasley place by the farms of Louis Styons and Paul Sawyer and back to the highway. It was pointed out that this short stretch of road would serve four or more families, including a number of children who go to school by bus, and that volunteer labor was available to help get this road in shape as soon as possible. The petition was forwarded to the State Highway and Public Works Commission with the approval of the board.

A resolution was passed requesting the North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission to report to each county on the first Monday in every December the amount of money appropriated for roads in each county and the amount actually spent. The resolution expressed the belief that expenditures could be made to better advantage by consultation between the county authorities and the highway commission and that friction could be avoided through a spirit of closer cooperation. Copies of the resolution are being mailed to State Senator W. R. Hampton and Representative W. H. Peele.

W. B. Ainsley was sworn in as constable for Scuppernon Township by Clerk of Court W. M. Darden.

Dr. C. McGowan, as acting head of the health department, submitted a narrative report of its activities during the months of July, August and September, and the report was accepted by the board.

The board voted to provide a supplement of \$10 per month for janitor's salary at the Plymouth High School.

The tax collector was instructed to proceed to collect all personal property taxes due and past due as prescribed by law, beginning April 1.

Jim Hamilton was reappointed as janitor for the courthouse and agriculture building for the month of January.

At a previous meeting, held on December 20, the commissioners re-elected the following employees of the county: L. L. Basnight, county farm supervisor; Mrs. L. L. Basnight, keeper of the county home; J. E. Davenport, tax collector; E. J. Spruill, county auditor; W. L. Whitley, county attorney; and Dr. C. McGowan, county physician. It was decided to appoint the janitor for the courthouse and agriculture building by the month.

Robbery Attempt at Two Places Reported Sunday

Unknown persons attempted to break in the Manning Motor Company and the Water Street Service Station Sunday night, but both attempts were unsuccessful. Someone heard the would-be robbers and reported to the police. Chief P. W. Brown investigated and found marks indicating attempts had been made to enter both places, although neither was successful.

Visit in Creswell

Creswell—Cadet J. C. Gatlin, Jr., of the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y.; Miss Audrey Meyer, of Merrick, Long Island, N. Y.; and Cadet J. L. Allen, also of West Point, visited Cadet Gatlin's mother, Mrs. Alice M. Gatlin, in Creswell during the holidays.

Tax Listing Is Off To Slow Start in County; See Last-Minute Rush

ACCEPTS CALL



The Rev. Paul B. Nickens has accepted a call to the pastorate of the local Baptist church and will begin his work here Sunday, January 7, preaching at both the morning and evening services. Mr. Nickens is well known to Plymouth people, having served as pastor of the local church from 1938 to 1941.

Rev. P. B. Nickens Has Accepted Call to Baptist Church Here

To Preach Sunday at Both Services; Recently Released From Army

The Rev. Paul B. Nickens announced last week that he had decided to accept the call to the pastorate of the Ludford Memorial Baptist church here. The call was extended to him last month, following the resignation of the Rev. Lee A. Phillips, who is planning to go into another field.

Mr. Nickens was here last week to make arrangements for moving his family here and beginning his work. Mrs. Nickens and their little son are now in Raleigh. The new pastor will preach at the regular morning and evening hours Sunday.

Mr. Nickens is a former pastor of the local church, serving for three and a half years. He resigned in August, 1941, and later went into the Army as a chaplain, continuing in that work until given a medical discharge last month. Remarkable progress was made by the local church during his first pastorate here, the membership increasing from 78 to very nearly 200 in the three and a half year period.

Mr. Nickens is a graduate of Calypso High School and Wake Forest College. Before he came here in 1938 he held pastorates in north and south Henderson churches and was assistant pastor of the Angier Avenue Baptist church in Durham. He went into the Army in July, 1943, as a first lieutenant and was promoted to captain in July, 1944. After attending the chaplains' school at Harvard University, he was assigned to the Fourth Air Force on the west coast.

He was in the Los Angeles Fighter Wing and was stationed at the Salinas Army Air Base, later going to Geiger Field, Wash. He was promoted to captain while at Salinas, and was released from the Army by medical discharge about the first of last December.

Lost in Swamp Near Here for 24 Hours

J. M. Oliver Suffering From Exposure After Finding Way Out

After having been lost in the dismal swamp area along the Turnpike road for upward of 24 hours, J. M. Oliver finally made his way back to the highway about 2 p.m. Tuesday. He had gone into the territory on a deer hunt early Monday morning and became lost about noon that day.

Mr. Oliver suffered considerably from exposure and was in bed at the home of B. F. Ange, a relative, near here yesterday. He went into the woods near the Asa Craddock place on Highway 32 and came out at the "Sand Bridge," possibly six or seven miles away.

Mr. Oliver built a fire Monday night, which was very cold and raw, and remained close to it throughout the darkness. Incidentally, he shot and killed a wildcat which was attracted to the blaze. When the news spread Tuesday that he was lost, more than a score of persons went into the area looking for him; but he managed to make his way out alone.

Schedule for Listers Is Announced This Week by Supervisor

Task Must Be Completed No Extension of Time Is Expected

Some progress is being made by the four tax listers in their respective townships this week, although as usual a first-class last-minute rush is in prospect unless more speed is shown by property owners in getting their holdings on the tax books. A few people were listing the early part of the week, but the list-takers were not nearly as busy as they will be the latter part of this month.

A complete schedule for the several list-takers was announced this week by the tax supervisor, J. C. Knowles, of Roper, and he also directed a special appeal to farmers to come prepared to make their farm census reports, including acreages of various crops last year and prospective plantings this coming season.

Mrs. Hermine Ramsey, list taker for Plymouth Township, will be at her office on Water Street here every week day during the month, she said yesterday. She again requests that local property owners, if possible, do their listing during the early part of each week, leaving Fridays and Saturdays open for farmers and others who do not live in town and who may have more trouble than usual in getting here to list their taxes, due to gasoline rationing.

The list takers in the other three townships have worked out schedules for the month, during which they will visit various localities in their districts for the convenience of property owners.

R. W. Lewis, list taker for Lees Mill Township, announces the following schedule: At Chesson's store, Westover, January 11 and 23; Wenona, January 16; Mackeys, January 9, 17, and 26; T. W. Tarkenton's service station, January 5 and 19; and at Pierce's store in Roper all other weekdays during the month.

Walter W. White, list taker for Skippersville Township, will be at the following places: R. E. Patrick's store, January 3 and 11; H. L. Davenport's store, January 4, 17 and 25; A. R. Patrick's store, January 10, 18 and 24; and at White's store all other week-days during the month.

Creswell Man Said Killed in Germany

Pvt. William Stuart Costin Killed in Action on November 27th

Creswell—Mrs. Mary Tarkenton Costin, of Creswell, was notified last week by the War Department that her husband, Pvt. William Stuart Costin, had been killed in action in Germany on November 27. Private Costin was a member of an infantry division.

He was inducted into the Army in May of last year and spent a 10-day furlough in Creswell after receiving his basic training at Camp Croft, S. C., last October. He reported back to Fort George G. Meade, Md., and went overseas shortly afterwards.

Besides his widow, Mrs. Mary Tarkenton Costin, Private Costin is survived by two small sons, James Stuart and Clinton Ray Costin. He also leaves his mother, Mrs. Vivie Costin, of Wilmington; one sister, Mrs. Susan Augustine, of Fayetteville; a brother, Pvt. Wilbert Costin, now stationed at Salt Lake City, Utah; two half-sisters, Mrs. Beatrice Lamb, of Clinton, and Mrs. Annie Smith, of Wilmington; and one half-brother, Theodore Lee Costin, of Wilmington.

Heber Respass, Jr. Said Injured Again

Mrs. Heber Respass, Jr., was notified yesterday that her husband, who has been serving with an infantry division on the Italian battlefield, had been wounded in action for the second time within the past three months. She received a notice in late October that the young man had been slightly wounded October 4th, and it is presumed that he recovered and returned to action only to be wounded again. The nature or extent of his most recent injury was not explained in the message received yesterday.

Private Respass is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Heber L. Respass, of near Plymouth. Mrs. Respass is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Ange, also of near Plymouth, and is living with her parents. It is understood that Private Respass has been in the service about two years, a considerable portion of which has been overseas.

Gregg Cherry Outlines Policies in Inaugural Speech at Noon Today

Schools in County Reopen Tuesday

All county schools, white and colored, resumed their sessions Tuesday morning after the two-week Christmas holiday. County Superintendent H. H. McLean said this morning that attendance was reported very good throughout the system and that all teaching positions were filled.

It is understood that several teachers in the county system have resigned or are planning to resign for various reasons, but there were no vacancies this morning, the county superintendent said.

School Child Struck By Log Truck Near Here This Morning

Phyllis Jackson Was Crossing Highway To Board School Bus

Phyllis Jackson, 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Jackson, who live near the Pines, a few miles east of Plymouth, suffered a seriously injured left arm about 8:30 this morning, when she was struck by a log truck while crossing the highway to board a school bus. There were conflicting reports as to whether or not the truck driver knew he had struck the little girl; but Sheriff J. K. Reid said before noon he had learned the driver's identity and expected him to report at the courthouse this afternoon.

The school bus had stopped on the dirt road which intersects the highway in front of the Pines, and several children crossed the highway to board the bus. They did not see the log truck, described as a red Ford and trailer, until it was right on them. The driver swerved the truck, and it is thought the blower on the trailer swung out and struck the Jackson child on the left arm. Some of the eye-witnesses say the truck stopped, while others thought it slowed down and then went on.

The little girl was brought to the office of Dr. T. L. Bray here for first-aid treatment. Dr. Bray said her left arm was badly broken at the elbow, and she was suffering from shock.

Sheriff J. K. Reid had not completed his investigation at noon, but said he expected some developments during the day.

Is Injured in Foot By Accidental Shot

Marine Pvt. Linwood Modlin Accident Victim at Home Near Here

Pvt. Linwood Modlin, of the U. S. Marine Corps, was painfully injured in his right foot Sunday morning by the accidental discharge of a shotgun at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson Modlin, near Plymouth. The young man, home on a brief furlough, saw a 'coon near his home Sunday morning and went to the house after his gun. On the way back he got some mud on his shoes and tried to knock it off with the end of the gun barrel. The weapon was discharged and the entire load of small shot tore through his right foot, near the toes.

He was brought to Plymouth, where Dr. T. L. Bray rendered first aid. Later he was transferred to the hospital at the New River Marine Training center, where he had been stationed. According to relatives, the wound is not serious, and he is expected to be able to return to duty shortly.

Emphasis Given To Matters of Finance, Veterans, Education

Says Surplus of \$70,000,000 Must Not Be Dissipated For Current Expense

Raleigh—R. Gregg Cherry, of Gastonia, lawyer, legislator and former soldier, today took his oath of office as Governor of North Carolina and delivered an inaugural address that embraced his recommendations to the general assembly. The legislative body, in joint session, heard the address.

Speaking for an hour, Governor Cherry presented a program of outlined growth and development for the state during the next four years when he will be North Carolina's chief executive. Emphasis was given to matters of finance, health, education, highways, agriculture, welfare, labor and the handling of veterans and their affairs at the close of the present war.

In his statement of fiscal policy, Governor Cherry said that appropriations for the coming biennium "must be kept within the availability of revenues estimated to be received during the biennium." The present general fund surplus he added will amount to \$70,000,000 by June of 1945, because of abnormal wartime business conditions. "This surplus must not be dissipated in current expenditures," he said. He added that this money should be used to provide for the retirement of state debts, to come due in future years.

His recommendations along this line are for the setting aside of a sufficient portion of this surplus to meet all general fund bonded debt payments as they come due, both principal and interest. He said this would take \$55,000,000 and would by this provision, also reduce current levies of taxation by \$5,000,000. The remainder of the surplus should go into a postwar reserve fund, he continued, to serve as a cushion against a sudden decline in revenue, or for other possible needs and purposes that might arise.

As a fiscal policy for the immediate future, the Governor came out strong against any new taxes, and for holding unchanged (for the most part) the present tax structure. Tax structure changes suggested were to make drugs used by doctors and patients exempted from tax, and permitting the income tax structure to exempt expenses for medical care, funerals, and of children in school. He advocated continuing the war bonus for teachers and state employees.

(See CHERRY SPEECH, Page 4)

Sgt. Fenner Waters Home From French Battlefield

Sgt. Fenner Waters is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Waters, of the Dardens section, and his wife here after serving 14 months overseas in the European theater of war. He landed in France during the middle of the fighting on D-Day, June 6th, and remained there for six months. His campaign bar includes two stars for major battle actions. He will be here for some time and is to report to a camp near San Diego, Calif., when his leave is up. He then expects to be assigned to the Pacific war theater.

More Men in Older Age Groups Will Be Called for Induction in Immediate Future

Recent directives received by the local draft board indicate that in the future regulations concerning deferments of men for industrial and agricultural work will be applied in a much more strict manner than in the past, even in the older age groups. As for those between the ages of 18 and 26, it was reported in the press yesterday that all agricultural deferments for men in this group had been cancelled by order of the War Manpower Commission. A directive to this effect is expected by local boards throughout the country with

in the next few days. Deferment of men in this age group for work in industry was practically cancelled about the middle of last year. Estimates of available men indicate that calls after February 1st cannot be filled from men in the 18-26 age group. For this reason, the local draft officials have been informed, it will be necessary to induct increasing numbers of men from the older age groups.

A recent directive to the draft board here stated that men in the older age groups who have been deferred for work in industry or agriculture shall be reclassified to a class immediately available for service if they leave the employment for which they were deferred without having the approval of the board.

The manpower situation is becoming more serious, it is explained, due to the larger number of American divisions now actually engaged in combat, which has in turn expanded the necessity for military supplies of all sorts. Local boards are advised that a much stricter application of classification policies must be followed in the future.