

Plans are being made by the entertainment committee of the Plymouth Lions Club for its annual character night meeting during the month of February.

Friday night of this week will be Past Commander's Night at the regular meeting of the James E. Jethro Post of the American Legion.

Saturday of this week, February 10, is the final day of the 1944-45 hunting season.

Tax listing ended in the county last week, and reports by J. C. Knowles, tax supervisor, and the four list takers indicate that there will be few delinquents to be cited for failure to list.

Several news articles are being left out of this issue because they were received too late.

County farmers are busy now with their tobacco beds, according to general reports.

Tax collections for both the town and county have been running at a higher rate than usual for the past month or so, according to J. E. Daventry, county tax collector.

The Plymouth Merchants Association met Tuesday afternoon to discuss the recent "brown-out" order issued by the WPB.

Another County Bill Now in Legislature Introduced by Representative Yesterday; Status of Other Bills

Representative W. H. Peele yesterday introduced a bill in the house to alter Washington County to the state concerning payment to the clerk of superior court of sums not exceeding \$300 due and owing to persons who die intestate.

All three of the bills introduced by Mr. Peele on January 26 have now passed the house and are pending in the senate.

HB 148, relating to increased pay for Washington County jurors; amended in committee to apply only to superior court jurors and passed February 1.

HB 149, relating to increased pay for chairman and members of board of county commissioners; amended to allow clerk to board \$10 for each meeting attended; passed by house February 1.

HB 150, relating to increased pay for chairman and members of board of education; passed by house February 1.

Local Boy Scout Troop Has Number Plans for Observing Boy Scout Week

The Plymouth Boy Scouts, as part of the observance of Boy Scout Week, will attend a special service at the Methodist church here Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

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County War Bond Quota for January Is Oversold, With Reports Incomplete

Although complete reports have not been received from the Federal Reserve Bank at Richmond, Va., Washington County is assured of overselling its January quota of War Bonds.

The county had a quota of \$22,305 for the month of January, and the Branch Banking & Trust Company in Plymouth alone sold \$22,556.25 worth of bonds during the month.

Extension of Town Water-Sewer Lines Is Near Completion

6,000 Feet of Water Mains, 7,000 Feet Sewer Lines Being Added

The Town of Plymouth is nearing the end of a program to extend water and sewer lines in the eastern part of the town.

Chief of Police P. W. Brown, who has assisted in supervising the work, said yesterday that about 6,000 feet of 6-inch water mains had been laid and approximately 5,500 feet of sewer lines.

The lines have been extended out East Main Street as far as the home of E. F. Still.

Besides service to the individual homes in the eastern part of town, addition of the fire hydrants lessens the danger of a serious fire in that section.

1945 Farm Plans To Be Signed Next Week

Sale of Town Car Tags Is Still Slow

Plymouth residents are still a little on the slow side in buying their town automobile license tags for 1945.

The tabs cost \$1 each and may be obtained from M. W. Sprull at the office of the city clerk, or from Chief of Police P. W. Brown at police headquarters.

Committeemen Will Visit Each Locality

Schedule Is Announced for Sign-Up in Various Communities Next Week

AAA community committeemen will be at various places in all sections of the county next week to assist farm operators in preparing and signing their farm plans for the current year.

All farmers in the county are urged to meet their respective committeemen according to the following schedule:

For Plymouth and Long Acre communities: At the agriculture building in Plymouth Monday and Tuesday, February 12 and 13.

For Roper and Pleasant Grove communities: W. N. Piercy's store, Monday, February 12; at T. W. Tarkenton's store, Tuesday, February 13; at T. R. Chesson's store, Wednesday, February 14.

For Creswell, Mount Pleasant and Cherry Communities: At A. F. Patrick's store, Monday, February 12; at Hubert Davenport's store, Tuesday, February 13; at J. T. Sprull's store, Wednesday, February 14; and at Loomis Furlough's store, Thursday, February 15.

Filing out the farm-plan forms is a very necessary part of the program, and the committeemen will be able to help farmers determine how they can earn maximum benefit payments by approved soil-building and conservation practices.

Doctors From Three Counties Meet Here

Eleven of the 13 physicians in Martin, Washington and Tyrrell Counties met at the country club here last night for their annual dinner meeting.

Section Master Hurt In Accident Friday

W. W. Browning, of Plymouth, section master for the Norfolk Southern Railroad Company, was painfully injured last Friday afternoon, when he jumped from the railroad motor car he was riding just before it collided with an extra train.

New Fire Truck Is Received and Given Tests Here Friday

Fire-Fighting Facilities Are Practically Doubled by Latest Acquisition

The town's new fire truck finally arrived here last Friday. Ordered about the middle of last year, the truck was designed, built and equipped by the Mack Company and delivered by a representative of that firm who drove it here from Rocky Mount.

Addition of the new truck almost doubles the fire-fighting capabilities of the local volunteer fire department. The new truck is described as a two-stage centrifugal triple-combination piece of apparatus, designed to serve as a hose, ladder and pumper truck.

The old American-LaFrance truck used by the town is a little larger than the new one, having a 750-gal. See FIRE TRUCK, Page Six

Purple Heart for Roscoe Browning

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Browning have recently received the Purple Heart medal and certificate posthumously awarded their son, Sgt. Roscoe J. Browning, who was killed in action on the Italian battlefield September 3rd last year.

Sergeant Browning, graduate of the local high school in 1935, was member of a tank-destroyer battalion with General Mark Clark's Fifth Army in Italy. He entered the service in April, 1942, and was about 26 years old at the time of his death in Italy last year.

Besides his parents, he is survived by a brother, Elmer Browning, and two sisters, Mrs. Bennie L. Hardison and Miss Thelma Browning, all of Plymouth.

meeting probably will be held one night next week for the boys and their parents. Harold Whiteley, chairman of the troop committee, is making arrangements for the dinner.

County-Wide Improvement Of Schools Is Endorsed by Boards in Meeting Monday

Summation of Main Points Embraced in Proposal for Schools

Calls for Earmarking ABC Profits If Election Fails On Bond Issue

Following is a brief summation of the essential provisions of the resolution passed by the Washington County Board of Education and endorsed by the Board of County Commissioners at their regular meetings last Monday:

1. Acknowledges pressing need of new buildings, additions, major repairs and equipment for following: White and colored schools in Plymouth district; colored schools in Roper and Creswell districts;

2. Requests county representative and district senators to secure enabling act during present session of legislature for holding bond election at time selected by county commissioners. Requested legislation would provide:

(a) Maximum amount of bonds authorized, \$250,000; denominations, maturities and interest rate to be determined by county commissioners; money could be used only for purposes outlined in paragraph 1 above;

(b) If bond election fails to carry, entire profits of ABC stores would be set aside to accumulate for use by Board of Education in carrying out program outlined in paragraph 1; if bond election is carried, only such portion of ABC funds as needed to care for interest and retiring principal would be used each year;

(c) Begin setting aside ABC funds for school-improvement program July 1, 1945, and continuing until bond election is held and results determined.

Under this plan, proponents claim the tax rate will be effected but little if the bond issue is authorized in the special election; since they estimate not more than \$15,000 per year will be required to pay interest and principal retirements on a 30-year basis if the entire amount is used.

On the other hand, failure of the election to carry calls for setting aside the entire ABC profits—estimated at \$30,000 per year—which would necessitate a materially higher tax rate for the approximately eight years required to raise the same amount of money. In other words, it is claimed that the tax rate can be maintained at or near its present level if the bonds are authorized, while if the election fails, a considerably higher rate is in prospect.

Chas. W. Davenport Wounded in Action

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Davenport, of the Pleasant Grove section, received a telegram from the War Department Thursday afternoon of last week stating that their son, Technician Fifth Grade Charles W. Davenport, 20, had been wounded in action on January 16 in Germany.

The telegram stated that the young man's mail address and details of his injury would follow shortly directly from the hospital to which he had been taken.

Corporal Davenport, 20 years of age, had been in the service since June, 1943, with a combat engineers outfit. He graduated from Roper High school that same spring and worked at the North Carolina Pulp Company here for about a month before entering the service.

He spent a brief furlough at his home near Roper in May of last year, just before leaving for a port of embarkation. The last letter received by his parents before they were advised he had been wounded was dated January 8th in France.

Wounded Creswell Soldier Is Home on 21-Day Leave

Creswell—Pfc. Joseph L. Spencer is home on leave after 7 1/2 months in Italy, where he was wounded in action in October of last year.

Private Spencer has been in the service for about 26 months, training at Camp Claiborne, Ala., and Camp Howze, Texas, before going overseas. After a 21-day leave here with his wife, the former Miss Mildred Clifton, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Spencer, he will return to Woodrow Wilson General Hospital at Staunton, Va., to resume medical treatment for his wounds.

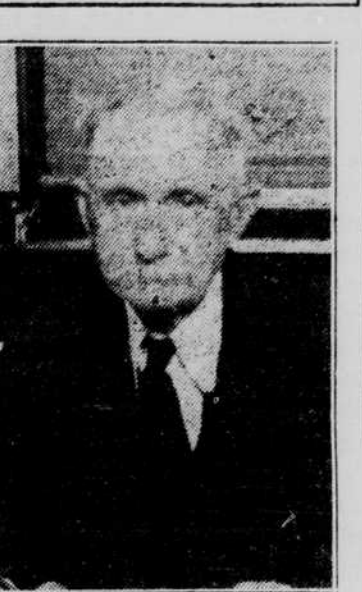
Filling Station at Roper Robbed Sunday Night

Sheriff J. K. Reid reported Monday that the Wigg Gaylor filling station at Roper was entered sometime Sunday night or early Monday morning before day.

The intruders centered their attention on automobile supplies, getting away with five Armstrong tires, 6.00-16, one 7.00-15 tire, one 4.75-19 tire, one tube and one new battery.

The robber or robbers gained entrance by forcing a window in the lavatory. The sheriff is continuing his investigation, but said he had no clues to the guilty persons, who he believes, are members of a gang of black-market operators.

82ND BIRTHDAY



C. V. W. Ausbon, long a public figure in Washington County, celebrated his 82nd birthday at his home here Monday.

Complete Text of School Resolution

The complete text of the resolution concerning school conditions in Washington County, passed by the board of education and endorsed by the county commissioners Monday, is as follows:

Be it resolved by the County Board of Education of Washington County: That it is necessary, in order to provide for the construction of urgently needed school buildings in the county, including buildings of new construction, additions to existing buildings and repairs to and recon- ditioning of same, and to provide the necessary furniture, fixtures, and additional equipment for all of the schools of Washington County; and to purchase such additional lands for school purposes as are necessary, that a large sum of money be made available for expenditure.

That this board go upon record as being of the opinion that same cannot be done for less than a sum approximating \$250,000. That it is realized that no such sum can be made available for said purposes other than by the issuance of bonds of Washington County. That this board regards the issuing of said bonds and making available of said funds as being immediately urgent and highly imperative.

That the system of public education required by the constitution and by the statutes cannot be maintained properly in Washington County without said program of construction.

See RESOLUTIONS, Page Six

Vagrant Gets Road Sentence in Court

Only three defendants were called Tuesday morning at the weekly session of recorder's court, and the docket was cleared in short order by Judge W. Ronald Gaylor.

Joe Shugar, white, of Plymouth, paid a fine of \$10 and cost for speeding.

Joseph Edward Howell, colored, of Skimmersville, found guilty of assault, was given 30 days or \$15 and costs.

Joe Lassiter, colored, of Plymouth, was found guilty of assault on female and vagrancy. He was given 30 days on the roads for vagrancy and 90 days for assault, to be suspended upon payment of \$25 fine and costs.

Unable to pay the fine, he has been sent to a prison camp.

Two New School Buses Received Last Week by County Are Now in Operation

The county educational system last week received two brand new school buses from the state department. Both are 21-foot Ford buses, with a capacity of 40 to 45 pupils, according to H. H. McLean, county superintendent.

One of the new buses was assigned to the Long Acre route served by the Plymouth school, while the other went into service on the Pea Ridge route of the Creswell High School. Placing the new bus in operation here will save one extra trip that was being made by the aged bus it replaces.

Will Ask Legislators For Enabling Act to Have Bond Election

To Provide New Buildings, Additions, Major Repairs And Equipment

The Washington County Boards of Education and County Commissioners took definite action at their regular meetings Monday to improve school facilities throughout the entire county system.

The resolution asks the county representative and the district senators to secure passage of the enabling legislation at the present session of the General Assembly.

Since the Assembly is expected to adjourn about March 1st, the resolution will be presented to the representative and senators without delay in the hope that the necessary bills may be drawn and introduced within the next few days.

Only one feature of the resolution was the cause of any debate between members of the board of education and county commissioners.

That was the provision that in event of failure of the bond election to carry, all the profits derived by the county from operation of ABC stores should be set aside as an accumulating fund to carry out the program of new buildings, additions and major repairs.

The commissioners, after considerable debate that lasted until after 7 o'clock Monday, finally agreed unanimously to this proposal and endorsed the entire resolution as passed by the board of education.

The next day, however, a special meeting of the commissioners was called to reconsider some phases of its action.

Only two of the three members of the board of commissioners were present for this special meeting, called for 7:30 Tuesday night, and a motion to rescind the action taken the day before failed to receive a second, leaving

See BOARD MEETS, Page Six

Quota Is Tripled in County Polio Drive

Mrs. Curry Reports \$1,695 In Donations, Against \$530 Quota

The drive for infantile paralysis funds in Washington County, under the direction of Mrs. G. B. Curry, of Plymouth, has more than tripled the quota assigned.

Mrs. Curry said yesterday that total contributions in the county stood at \$1,695, while the quota assigned was \$530.

Acknowledgment of contributions by individuals and organizations will be published next week. The total was substantially increased during the past week by report of Mrs. C. N. Davenport, Jr., chairman of the drive in the Creswell section, where \$312.22 was raised. This list also will be published later.

Outstanding collections were reported in county schools and the local theatre. The theatre took up collections totaling \$349.40 in a one-week period.

High-school pupils here turned in \$131.91; Hampton school pupils, \$164.30; Roper white school, \$104.80; Creswell white school, \$40.77; Cherry white school, \$12.15; Plymouth colored school, \$43.58; Roper, \$39.70; Creswell, \$16.85; Pritchette, \$8.45; Macedonia, \$8.37; Cherry, \$2; and there are possibly others.