



Miss Ernestine Whitley, of Plymouth, was among 35 students honored as special guests recently at East Carolina Teachers College at a tea given by the Beta Kappa chapter of Pi Omega Pi, national honorary business education fraternity.

Pfc. Edward A. Westray, 19, returned to duty with the Army last Sunday and is now stationed at Camp Pickett, Va. He returned to the United States in December from the European theatre, where he served for 16 months, and spent about two months here with his father, J. E. Westray.

The Plymouth High School basketball teams will meet the Edenton teams on the local court Thursday night of this week. Friday night, Windsor comes here for a double-header.

Jack House, jr., and Zeno Lyon, jr., will arrive Sunday to spend about two weeks with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. House and Mr. and Mrs. Zeno G. Lyon, respectively.

Miss Martha Manning, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Manning, of Plymouth, was one of seven girls in her class of 125 at Greensboro College to make grades that entitle them to unlimited "class cuts" during the second semester.

The Plymouth Lions Club is observing charter and ladies' night at its meeting tonight in the American Legion hall.

W. Ronald Gaylord, veterans' service officer for Washington County, went to Wilson yesterday for a two-day conference with W. H. Dunn, state senior service officer, relative to veterans' matters as they affect returning service men.

The Rev. and Mrs. B. E. Taylor and little son, Howard, of Cave City, Ky., were visitors in Plymouth for a short while yesterday.

Announcement was made last week by George M. Fountain, of Tarboro, that he would be a candidate to succeed himself as solicitor of the second judicial district.

Urge Ships Be Used To Provide Housing

Editor Raleigh Times Suggests Discarded Liberty Ships Be Sent to Eastern Towns Where Housing Short

Use of discarded Liberty ships as emergency living quarters for the families of both veterans and civilians in Plymouth—and similar towns where a housing shortage exists—was suggested recently by John A. Park, editor of the Raleigh Times.

Mr. Park came here a few weeks ago to address a meeting of the Rotary Club and learned of the serious housing shortage existing in Plymouth.

In an editorial published in the Times, last week, Mr. Park explained his views and the action he has taken as follows:

The housing shortage gets no better. At Raleigh and in numerous areas of North Carolina, as well as throughout the nation, it is getting worse, decidedly worse.

Noting that the all-time peak on lumber prices has again gone skyward, the editor of the Raleigh Times has taken occasion to earnestly request relief measures for persons needing places to sleep, a double appeal going to Secretary of the Navy Forrestal and also to officials of the North Carolina Warehousemen's Association.

It has been suggested to Mr. Forrestal that some of the surplus Navy and U. S. Marine ships now being parked idle away in the James River be made available at points in

Plymouth Business Houses Will Begin Wednesday Half-Holidays Next Week

Plymouth stores and business houses will begin their mid-week half-holidays a month early this year. Starting next week, March 6, they will close at 12 noon for the remainder of the day on Wednesday of each week.

Heretofore, local merchants have started their Wednesday half-holidays in April, but at a meeting held Tuesday afternoon

it was decided to begin in March this year. A motion for all stores to close at 7 p. m. on Saturdays was defeated by a tie vote, 8-8 with one member present declining to vote.

Patrons of local business houses are requested to cooperate by doing their shopping before noon on Wednesdays, in order to give store owners and their employees some time off during the spring and summer months.

Nominate 12 County Officers in Primaries

Farm Bureau to Meet Tomorrow

The Washington County Farm Bureau will hold its regular meeting Friday night of this week at 8 o'clock in the agriculture building at Plymouth.

Mr. Hassell said that a program and objectives for this year would be discussed at the meeting. He hopes to have a representative attendance from all sections of the county for this reason.

Reduction Soon in Electric Rate Here

Utilities Rate Expert Edgar Womble, of Raleigh, has announced that the new rate schedules of the Virginia Electric and Power Company will save Northeastern North Carolina customers about \$100,000 a year.

The new schedules lowering the rates on power supplied, were approved recently by the State Utilities Commission. The lowered rates, which affect home users, small shops and power for street lighting, will become effective April 1.

Twelve thousand residential and three thousand commercial customers use V.E.P.Co. power in Northeastern North Carolina. All customers who use more than 50 kilowatt hours per month will be affected by the rate slash.

Electric power in the section is supplied now entirely by V.E.P.Co., and through the REA lines in outlying districts.

At present, Womble said, the rate charged by the Virginia company for 100 KWH is \$4.25, which will be reduced to \$3.95 under the new schedule. The commercial rate of \$5 for 100 KWH will be lowered to \$4.75.

No Candidates Have Announced To Date

April 13 Is Deadline; Primaries Will Be Held on May 25th

Despite the fact that 12 county officers will be at stake in the primaries on May 25th this year, not a single candidate has made formal announcement up to now. Most of the present officers are expected to be candidates to succeed themselves, and several others are known to be considering entering various contests.

The deadline for filing the candidacies for the General Assembly and for county offices is April 13. Aspirants must file by that time with the county boards of election, but do not have to file with the state board, as do district and state candidates.

County offices for which nominations are to be made in the May 25 primaries, and the length of their terms, are as follows: Clerk of superior court, four years; sheriff, four years; representative, two years; members of board of county commissioners (five), two years each; judge of recorder's court, two years; solicitor of recorder's court, two years; and coroner, two years. In addition, one member of the board of education is to be nominated, for confirmation at the next session of the legislature.

District officers to be nominated include two senators from the second senatorial district, for two years each. W. Roy Hampton, of Plymouth, and Hugh G. Horton, of Williamston, have announced for these positions. A Representative to Congress from the First Congressional District is likewise to be nominated.

State Tax Deputy Here Next Week

A State Department of Revenue deputy collector, E. Ross Froneberger, will be at the office of the clerk of court in the courthouse here next Monday and Tuesday, March 4 and 5, to assist taxpayers in preparing and filing their state income tax returns for 1945.

State income tax returns must be filed by unmarried persons who had a gross income of \$1,000 or more and by married persons with incomes of \$2,000 or more. They are required to be filed before March 15th.

Those who own intangible personal property, including money on hand, accounts receivable, notes, bonds, mortgages, etc., are also required to file an intangible tax return. Mr. Froneberger will be glad to assist in filing either or both returns while he is here.

Large Steam-Boiler Distilling Outfit Is Seized by Officers Near Here Tuesday

One of the largest and most complete distilling outfits seized in the county in recent years was captured about three miles from Plymouth Monday by county and town officers.

The outfit was located not far off the White Oak Neck road on the Charles Henry Horton place. Officers making the seizure were Deputy Sheriff L. L. Basnight and City Patrolmen Paul Basnight and Foy Davenport.

ready to run, several other vats used for various purposes, a cooling trough 16 feet in length rigged with 1½-inch pipe, and miscellaneous other equipment. The vats, containing about 2,500 gallons of mash, were destroyed and the other equipment is to be brought to Plymouth.

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Record Session Held By Recorder's Court Here Last Tuesday

Fines Aggregating \$575 Assessed; 29 Defendants In 20 Cases

Judge W. Ronald Gaylord had a record day in recorder's court here Tuesday. A total of 20 cases were called, and there were 29 defendants, all except three pleading guilty or being found guilty; with fines aggregating \$575 being imposed, in addition to the court costs. No processes were entered in three cases and one was continued until next Tuesday.

The session lasted well into the afternoon, and would have continued possibly into another day if most of the defendants had not submitted, obviating the necessity of presenting testimony. The proceedings attracted a large crowd of spectators, including a high school history class, which was present to learn something about court procedure. Solicitor W. Blount Rodman prosecuted the docket, assisted in one instance by Carl L. Bailey as private prosecution.

Following is a list of the cases called:

A nol pros was taken in a case against Jesse Spruill, white, of Creswell, charged with bastardy. His case had been in court once before and when he entered a plea of double jeopardy the state declined to push the matter at this time.

Willie Nixon and Bernice Howell, colored, of Roper, pleaded guilty and paid fines of \$25 and costs each for cohabiting as man and wife.

A fracas at Juniper Lodge Wednesday night of last week resulted in six out of eight defendants pleading guilty to participating in an affray, and they were fined \$10 each and the costs pro-rated. The six fined were Susie Thomas, of Plymouth; Basil Harden and Rudolph Smithwick, of Windsor; Charlie Spruill, Cyril Spruill and Bennie Jackson, of Roper. A nol pros was taken as to Jasper Hardison, of Mackeys, and a continuance until next Tuesday granted Jack Swain, of Plymouth, in the same case.

In a companion case to the one (See COUNTY COURT, Page 4)

Two Draft Calls Here Next Week

Notices have gone out from the office of the Washington County Selective Service Board for two groups of colored men to report for draft calls next week, according to Mrs. Mildred Collins, clerk to the board. There are three men in the induction call, set for Monday, March 4, and five who will go to Fort Bragg for pre-induction examination on Tuesday, March 5.

Those ordered to report for induction next Monday are as follows: Edison Louis Towe, jr., and Herbert Lee Alexander, both of Plymouth; and Joseph Warren Hedgboth, of Roper.

In the group of registrants who will report for preinduction examinations on Tuesday, March 5, are the following: John Lee Hyman, George Washington Howard, Eugene Downing, James Edward Perry, and John Wrighton, all of Roper.

125 Cited by Local Police Within Past Two Months

Members of the Plymouth Police Department have made a total of 125 arrests or citations since January 8th, a review of the police blotter this week shows. Of this number, 45 defendants have been called to trial in the county recorder's court, and 80 were given hearings before justices of the peace.

Convictions were obtained in a vast majority of the cases. Fines and costs amounting to \$1,561.40 have been paid into the county treasury as a result of the 45 cases sent to the recorder's court. No record is available as to the amount of fines and costs imposed by the several justices of the peace.

State College Alumni To Meet With Rotary Here

Washington County alumni of State College, Raleigh, will be guests of the Rotary Club at its regular meeting next Tuesday night at 7 o'clock. Col. J. W. Harrelson, chancellor of the State College unit of the University of North Carolina, Raleigh, will be the principal speaker.

Alumni of State College in the county are cordially invited and urged to be present.

To Serve Chicken Salad Supper at Roper Tonight

Roper.—The ladies of the Episcopal church will sponsor a chicken-salad supper Thursday evening of this week at the Roper Community House. The public is urged to attend.

Plan to Raise \$2,000 Quota For Red Cross in Single Week

Progress of Town Reviewed in Talks At Lions Meeting

J. R. Manning, E. F. Still and W. J. Veasey Are Speakers

The Plymouth Lions Club had an exceptionally interesting and instructive meeting last Thursday, when the members were brought up to date on the progress and development of a number of community undertakings. Speakers were leaders in various fields of local endeavor.

J. R. Manning reviewed industrial and business prospects of the town, citing upwards of 25 or 30 new undertakings that have been, are being or soon will be launched here. His report encompassed a number of improvements planned for the town, and he wound up with an urgent appeal for support of the new hotel project.

E. F. Still, as mayor of Plymouth, reviewed some of the accomplishments of the city administration which took office last year. He stated that improvements had not kept pace with some other phases of community development, due primarily to the state of the city treasury. He explained the town's fiscal condition in detail, contrasting it with the urgent necessity of raising funds for extension of water and sewer lines, repair and improvement of local streets.

Mr. Still said there was no question in his mind but that the local population would reach 7,500 within the next three years, if homes and proper facilities are made available. There is an obligation on the part of the town to provide the facilities that will enable people to construct the homes, he stated. The mayor said he was making this explanation so that if it became necessary for the city council to recommend issuance of bonds to provide additional water and sewer lines and improved streets, members of the club could appreciate the urgency of the situation and be ready to back up the council action.

County School Superintendent W. F. Veasey, a guest of the club, made a brief talk in which he cited some of the needs and plans for improving the school situation, both locally (See LIONS CLUB, Page 4)

Board Meetings Set Next Monday

County and town governing boards will hold their regular first Monday meetings next Monday. The county board of commissioners and the county board of education will hold their meetings in the courthouse, starting at 10:30 a. m., while the city council will meet Monday night.

Routine business matters are scheduled for the county commissioners and city council. The board of education will meet with an architect and state schoolhouse planning experts to go over plans for the school building program in the county.

Court of Honor Held For Scouts at Meet Of Parent-Teachers

Awards Are Presented To Number Boys Last Thursday Night

The recent Boy Scout anniversary celebration was highlighted here by a Court of Honor for the Plymouth troop held at the meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association in the high school last Thursday night. Various awards for merit and advancement were presented to members of the local troop.

R. E. King, of Washington, Beaufort Scout district commissioner, presented the awards and spoke briefly on the importance of Scouting and the recent success of the program in Plymouth. He was accompanied by Reid Mitchell, a scoutmaster of Washington. Also present were local scout officials, including Scoutmaster H. G. Harris and Harold Whitley, chairman of the Albemarle district.

Tenderfoot badges were presented to Milton Rose, Sammy Rose, George Curry and Bradford Papineau. First-class badges were awarded to Hugh Pierce, jr., Hugh Modlin, Donald Hohl and Wayne Browning.

Charles Hohl was promoted from first-class to Star Scout, and Jack Booker was awarded the coveted Life Scout rank, he being the only Scout in the Albemarle district at this time to hold this award.

Several merit badges were presented for proficiency in various phases of Scout work as follows: Jack Booker, 5; Hugh Pierce, 4; Charles Hohl, 4; Hugh Modlin, 1; Donald Hohl, 1; Wayne Browning, 1; and Charles Smith, 1.

Service stars for one-year service were awarded to Macauley Harris, Jewel Hardison, Charles Hohl and Donald Hohl. Stars for two years' service were presented to (See COURT OF HONOR, Page 4)

Goals Assigned To Various Localities

Community Chairmen Also Named by J. W. Darden, County Chairman

The executive committee of the Washington County chapter of the American Red Cross has decided to make this year's campaign for funds short and intensive, starting on Monday, March 11, and closing Sunday, March 17. The county quota is only \$2,000, considerably less than the quota of \$3,500 last year, and far below the more than \$5,000 raised in the 1945 campaign.

John W. Darden, chairman of the chapter, also will serve as campaign chairman. He announced the community quotas and chairmen yesterday, and is appealing for a brief successful drive that will give everyone in the county an opportunity to make a donation.

Community quotas and chairmen are as follows: Plymouth and Plymouth Township, Robert E. Bowen, \$1,000; Seppernong Township, O. D. Hatfield, \$175; Skinnerville Township, Walter W. White, \$75; Roper section, L. E. Hassell, sr., \$150; Pleasant Grove section, J. C. Tarkenton, \$50; Mackeys section, Mrs. Edison Davenport, \$50; Wenona section, Mrs. Carl Heynen, \$50; and county colored people, Prof. W. H. Lord, of Plymouth, \$450.

Mr. Darden urgently requests that these public-spirited citizens accept this assignment and name the working force for the campaign. He suggests that each worker be listed by the respective chairmen and sent to the Beacon by next Tuesday in time for publication in the March 7th issue.

Supplies needed in the drive will be mailed to the chairmen next week, Mr. Darden said. Reports of collections may be made at the (See RED CROSS, Page 4)

1946 Plymouths on Display Saturday

The new line of Plymouth cars will be placed on public display in dealer showrooms throughout the United States on Saturday, March 2. It was announced at Detroit this week by Joseph E. Bayne, general sales manager of the Plymouth division, Chrysler Corporation.

The local Plymouth dealer, Satterthwaite Motor Company, has one of the new cars, and it will be put on display Saturday morning. Dan R. Satterthwaite, the owner, extends a cordial invitation to the public, to call and see it.

"The new Plymouth cars embody more improvements than found in most pre-war yearly model changes. The new improvements are manifest in both appearance and engineering advancements. Particular attention has been given to safety features, which have been engineered into the basic design of the car," it is stated.

1,213 Men Sent Into Service From County

Number Does Not Include Those Who Volunteered; Up To Now, 750 Discharges Reported to Draft Board

Washington County's contribution of men and women to the military forces of the nation in the past five years has amounted to considerably more than 10 per cent of its total population, according to figures supplied by the Washington County Selective Service Board.

With a total population of 12,323 in 1940, the county has furnished a total of 1,213 men to the service through Selective Service. This does not include a great number of volunteers of whom there is no record at the office of the draft board. It is conservatively estimated that at least 200 additional would be added if these records were complete.

Of the 1,213 men who entered the service through Selective Service since October 16, 1940, there were 463 still in some branch of the military forces as of Tuesday of this week, when the check was made. Discharges reported to the board at that time were 750, and an average of 35 men per week have been released for the past month or so, it was stated.

The number being released from the service has been steadily growing since the war ended last year. It is believed the peak has been reached at about 35 a week, and a decline in the number reporting discharges can now be expected, according to the clerk to the board.

At the present time, the selective service board is registered about 10 youths per month as they reach the age of 18. A great many of these are going right on into the service, it was stated, thus releasing some of those who served overseas while the war was in progress. Practically all recent inductions have been from the 18-year-old group, although a few limited service men a little older may expect calls beginning in April, according to recent directives from the state system.

Fair Warning To Speeders: "The Blue Scarp'n," Driven by Cop, Is After You

The city police department finally got its new car last week and has been making good use of it. The car, a blue four-door sedan, was the first of the new 1946 Chevrolets to be received by House Chevrolet Company, local dealers, and it has been on display here for the past two months. It was released for delivery by the Chevrolet Motor Company last week.

Patrolling in the new car, local police have already picked up about a half dozen speeders, as well as various other viola-

tors of the law, including a reckless driver and a drunken driver. Chief of Police P. W. Brown said today that speeders had better take warning, as orders have been issued to cite them all to the courts.

Incidentally, the new car has already been named. The chief said he had been informed that it was known among the colored brethren as the "Blue Scarp'n." So the "Blue Scarpion—or Scarp'n"—it is, and law violators had better watch out.