

W. M. Darden, clerk of the superior court, has been attending the annual convention of state clerks in Wilmington since Tuesday. He expects to return to Plymouth today.

All the town's fire hydrants are being repainted, greased and flushed by a group of workmen under the supervision of Chief of Police P. W. Brown. About one-half of the hydrants were covered yesterday, and the remainder will be gone over today. Aluminum paint is being used on the hydrants.

It seems The Beacon reporter was wrong in stating last week that the radiant heating system in the new hospital here would be the first installation of its kind in this section. T. D. Somerville has such a system installed in his home near Cool Springs. Mr. Somerville, who is building his home himself, started work on it about two years ago, and his family plans to move into it within the next two or three weeks. Mrs. Somerville said last Friday.

Approximately one-fourth of the 1949-50 town tax levy has already been collected. Chief of Police P. W. Brown reported to the city council last night. The chief, who is also tax collector, turned over \$16,000 to the city clerk yesterday, representing prepayments on the new levy. Those who paid during the month of June received a discount of 2%, he reported.

There are few more ardent week-day sportsmen locally than the Rev. J. O. Long, A. B., B. D., pastor of the Plymouth Methodist Church. He is also a bird-dog trainer of considerable note and ability in his spare time. All of which leads up to an explanation credited to Bill Joyner about the learned minister's degrees of bachelor of arts and bachelor of divinity. Someone recently asked Bill, a member of the Methodist Church what the letters "A. B., B. D." meant after Mr. Long's name on the church bulletin. "I don't know," replied Bill, "unless it's 'After Benediction, Bird Dogs.'"

Honesty continues to reign high in Plymouth. Last week Mrs. Emily Kowalczuk lost a bank book with cash in it. The book was returned with the cash intact. Last Monday being a national holiday the stores were not open. Howard Carr, local A. and P. Tea Co. manager, put 24 holiday cakes in front of the store and left a note for customers to take a cake and put the money inside the screen door. The next morning he found the correct cash for the cakes that were bought and the right number of cakes left. Not one had been stolen.

Drive-In Theatre Opens Tomorrow

The Plymouth Drive-In Theatre, just east of Plymouth on the new Roper highway, will hold its grand opening Friday night with the first show beginning at 7:45 o'clock and the second show starting at 9:45 o'clock.

Movies will be shown nightly at these hours, rain or clear, according to L. H. Ross and S. T. Carter, of Washington, owners of the theatre.

There is space for 150 cars. The ground has been filled in so in case of rain patrons' cars will not get stuck. Herman Hooker, of Plymouth, will manage the theatre.

Elder Denson to Preach At Morratock Church

Elder R. B. Denson will hold services at Morratock Primitive Baptist Church a few miles south of Plymouth next Sunday, July 10, according to announcement this week. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Gals' 'Swish' Contest To Begin This Week

The second major stunt to publicize the Washington County Sesqui-Centennial Celebration to be held in Plymouth September 18 through the 22nd will begin Saturday, when women of the county are to organize as the "sisters of the swish." The first major stunt was started by the men of the county two weeks ago with the organization as the "bush growers league," to grow beards, mustaches or side-burns. Beginning Saturday and continuing to sometime during the celebration in September, women in the county are to stop using make-up on their face. Any woman desiring to wear make-up during this time may purchase a "cosmetics permit" for a small

Delinquent Tax Sale Is Held by Town Monday

Seventy-eight parcels of real estate were sold at the courthouse door here Monday by P. W. Brown, town of Plymouth tax collector, for 1948 taxes due and unpaid to the town. The 78 parcels represented \$2,445.20 in unpaid taxes, plus the advertising costs and penalties. There were no individual buyers, and the property was bid in by the town for the amount of the delinquent taxes. The property sold included 23 parcels, representing \$1,397.54 in delinquent taxes, owned by

white residents of Plymouth; while 55 parcels, representing \$1,047.66 in unpaid taxes, were owned by colored people. Individual amounts ranged from a low of \$3 to a high of \$274.42. Mr. Brown said yesterday that tax collections on the 1948 levy had been very good, although the sale Tuesday was the largest in recent year. One reason for the larger sale is that it was held earlier than usual this year, although state law requires that it be held on the first Monday in May.

Superior Court Begins Monday

Tobacco Tenants Should Register

Miss Miriam Ausbon, chief clerk in the county AAA office, said yesterday that it was important for tenants and sharecroppers on county tobacco farms to turn in their names at the county office, so they may be placed on the list of those eligible to vote in the tobacco quota referendum on July 23.

The office has the names of landlords and owners of tobacco farms on record, but not all tenants and sharecroppers are listed. They will not be entitled to vote unless their names are on the list. Any person who shares in the proceeds of the 1949 tobacco crop is eligible to vote if his or her name is registered before the referendum date. There are 297 tobacco farmers in the county, and it is estimated that nearly 300 persons will be eligible to vote if all are listed.

Representative Is Asked To Renew Post Office Plea

In a letter to Representative Herbert C. Bonner last week-end, Attorney Z. V. Norman asked the Congressman to revive Plymouth's claim for a post-office building by interceding with officials of the Post Office Department in its behalf. Immediately prior to the war, Plymouth finally worked its way to the top of the list of towns for which post-office buildings were planned, but the start of hostilities stopped further action at that time.

Town Was Net on List For Building When War Halted All Public Construction

In his letter last week, copy of which was also forwarded to Senator Frank P. Graham, Mr. Norman restated Plymouth's case, citing the increased population and inadequacy of present facilities, and requesting the representative to take the matter up with the proper officials. Text of his letter follows:

"As you know, the Town of Plymouth has been next on the list of eligible towns in our congressional district for a post-office building. This situation has prevailed for several years. It is our understanding that the construction of new post-office buildings is being planned, but the start of hostilities stopped further action at that time. In his letter last week, copy of which was also forwarded to Senator Frank P. Graham, Mr. Norman restated Plymouth's case, citing the increased population and inadequacy of present facilities, and requesting the representative to take the matter up with the proper officials. Text of his letter follows:

"All women and girls in the county are urged to follow these rules by officials of the Sesqui-Centennial Commission as a patriotic gesture to help publicize and boost the county's 150th anniversary. However, if a woman buys a "cosmetics permit" or is seen wearing make-up, she will be summoned to the "kangaroo court" about the 1st of September and subjected to the "tender mercies" of the court. During the same time teen-age girls in the county are required to wear a man's necktie about her waist as a sash. Failure to do so will cost the girl a small fee and a summons to appear in the "kangaroo court." All women and girls in the county are urged to follow these rules by officials of the Sesqui-Centennial Commission as a patriotic gesture to help publicize and boost the county's 150th anniversary.

Mixed Term Includes 13 on Criminal Docket and 9 on Civil Calendar; Judge Carr Presides

A mixed term of the Washington County Superior Court will begin next Monday with Judge Leo Carr, of Burlington, scheduled to preside. Thirteen cases on the criminal docket are to be tried with three cases up for action by the solicitor. These cases are to be disposed of on Monday and Tuesday.

A civil calendar of seven divorce cases, an appeal case and one by motion is scheduled to be brought into court on Wednesday. Cases up for trial during the term of the county superior court are as follows:

Monday - Tuesday, July 11 - 12 David Prevatt and Henry Smith, both of Norfolk, Va., breaking and entering; Carey Brown, jr., colored, of Plymouth, rape; Roy Rigby, colored, of Scuppernon, breaking and entering; Willard M. White, Paul Phelps, Junior Clifton and Jarvis Sawyer, all of Creswell, cattle stealing; John D. Wrighton, colored, of Macedonia, forgery; Array Rhodes, colored, of Plymouth, assault; David Thomas Hurdle, of Hertford, speeding over 75; Eddie Hines Capers, colored, of Norfolk, hit and run; Raymond Everett, colored, of Mackeys, assault with a deadly weapon; Alfred Sawyer, of Columbia, embezzlement.

Wednesday, July 13 Ethel Keys vs. Ivory Keys; R. L. McNair vs. Ethel McNair; Lewis Cherry vs. Alice Cherry; Mary Thomas vs. John Thomas; William E. Hedgebeth vs. Lillian D. Hedgebeth; Arthur W. Furlough vs. Ida T. Furlough; Joseph A. Skeets vs. Bernice Skeets; Peter Willis vs. Margaret Bell Willis; Eddie Costin vs. Tyrrell Lumber Co.

Rites Tuesday for John D. Hufton

Funeral services for John Daniel Hufton, well known farmer of the Creswell section, who died suddenly at his home about 9 o'clock Sunday night, were held from the Scuppernon Church of Christ Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Mr. Hufton was 81 years of age. The final rites were conducted by the Rev. G. C. Bland, pastor of the church, and interment followed in the church cemetery.

Son of the late Edmund and Elizabeth Hufton, Mr. Hufton was a life-long resident of Washington County and well known throughout the Creswell section. For many years he was a member of the Scuppernon Church of Christ. In his usual health Sunday, Mr. Hufton was found dead in his chair when members of the family returned home from church Sunday night. Mr. Hufton's wife was the late Elizabeth Carolina Ward Hufton, who died some years ago. He is survived by three sons, Dallas L. Hufton and C. S. Hufton, of Creswell Route 1; William W. Hufton, of Norfolk, Va.; two daughters, Mrs. H. L. Davenport, of Roper Route 1, and Mrs. Russell Norman, of Savannah, Ga. He also leaves a brother, George Hufton, of Franklin, Va.; 34 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Lake Phelps Legion in Meeting Monday Night

The Lake Phelps Post, No. 391, American Legion, will hold its regular meeting next Monday night, July 11, at 8 p. m., in the Star-lite Club, according to announcement yesterday by H. S. Woodley, post adjutant. All members are urged to attend.

Education Board Moves to Adopt State Measures

Local Board Applies With Tyrrell County Board of Education for Two Supervisors

After changing their meeting date twice, members of the county board of education met Tuesday afternoon and accepted two measures adopted by the state board of education several weeks ago. County boardmen decided to join the "Public School Insurance Fund," which insures school buildings from fire, lightning, windstorm, hail and explosion. The fund is to be operated on an optional basis throughout the state from September 1, 1949 through December 31, 1949. On January 1, 1950 local school boards may accept or reject the fund plan.

The Washington County Board of Education acting in conjunction with the Tyrrell County Board of Education, decided to apply for the state's allotment of helping teachers or supervisors. The two counties are going together as a unit as a means of acquiring one white supervisor and one colored supervisor. The two counties were allotted two supervisors, in accordance with the teacher percentage.

The local boards are to provide transportation, office space and supplement in proportion to the time spent in each unit. The county board ordinarily meets on the first of the month, but the meeting date fell on July 4th, a holiday. The meeting then was postponed to Monday, July 11, then moved back to the 5th.

Mrs. C. W. Spruill Rites at Creswell

Funeral services were held from the Horner Funeral Home in Creswell Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock for Mrs. Mary Elsie Spruill, who died Monday afternoon at 3:45 o'clock in the Columbia hospital after an illness of about a week. Mrs. Spruill, 44 years of age, was the wife of C. W. Spruill, of Creswell section. The Rev. B. Wood Gaither, rector of the Episcopal church, conducted the funeral service, and interment followed in the family cemetery. Mrs. Spruill was a member of the Episcopal church. Mrs. Spruill was a native of Tyrrell County but had lived in the Creswell section for some time.

Besides her husband, Charlie W. Spruill, she is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dempsey Spruill, of Creswell; five sons, Dillon, Charles, jr., Phillip A., and Randolph Spruill, of Creswell, and Millard Spruill, of Rocky Mount; four daughters, Mrs. Eleanor Bowen, of Plymouth; Mrs. Elizabeth Hardy, of Rocky Mount; Misses Patricia Ann and Memphis Spruill, of the home. She also leaves four brothers, Jesse, Otis and Garfield Spruill, of Creswell Route 1; Redo Spruill, of South Mills; and one sister, Mrs. Della Hassell, of East Lake.

Local Legion Post Meets Friday Night

Members of the James E. Jethro Post No. 164 of the American Legion plan to hold a meeting in the Legion Hall tomorrow night at 8 o'clock.

Dallas Waters, post commander, urges all legionnaires to wear their caps as the meeting will be formal.

Grow One - Or Be One

A weird as well as wide variety of beards, goatees, mustaches and side-burns are being presented by Washington County men this week as their contribution to advertisement of the Sesqui-Centennial Celebration to be held here September 18-22. The bearded brethren have adopted a new slogan, and those who are refusing to sign up with the bush growers are being told to "grow one or be one!" There has been no explanation of what they mean by "be one," but it requires little imagination to know that it is not a complimentary term. Womenfolk, as a rule, are viewing the whisker-producing business of their spouses with marked lack of enthusiasm. In fact there is rumor that they

Tentative Rate of \$2 Set by Town Council Last Night

Budget Is Adopted After Lengthy Session; Utility Officials Discuss Unsettlingly Poles

Plymouth city fathers got home late last night, as it was nearly midnight before the budget for the 1949-50 fiscal year was tentatively adopted and the council meeting adjourned. The councilmen discussed a wide variety of matters before reaching the budget, which required close scrutiny and individual consideration of the many items. Councilmen A. J. Holbrook and W. H. Joyner were out of town, but the other four members were on hand, as follows: E. D. Keel, Robert W. Bowen, H. H. Allen and Max Willette. Mayor A. J. Riddle presided.

As finally approved, the 1949-50 budget calls for total expenditure and revenue of \$92,602.13, about \$2,000 more than for the preceding year. The tax rate was tentatively set at \$2 on each \$100 valuation, the same as last year.

Total property valuation is estimated at \$3,126,414, or \$152,614 more than the \$2,973,800 valuation for 1948-49. Of the total budget requirements of \$92,602.13, approximately \$62,528.28 is to be raised by ad valorem taxation, leaving slightly more than \$30,000 to come from other sources. A complete review of the budget will be made later, after it is approved by the Local Government Commission, which has the final say-so on individual items.

One new item was added to the budget for the coming year, \$1,000 for use by the city recreation commission. This amount was suggested by Councilman Robert Bowen and finally unanimously agreed upon after that amount was snatched from other items in the budget.

At the start of the meeting, representatives of the Virginia Electric & Power Company and the Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Company were heard in answer to a recent proposal that power and telephone lines be moved off the streets to the back lots or other steps be taken in the interest of city beautification. Ray H. Goodman, vice president in charge of North Carolina operations, and Sam P. Woolford, manager of the Williamston Division, both of Williamston, represented the power company; while E. W. Olschner, of Tarboro, vice president and chief engineer, represented the telephone company.

Spokesmen for both firms assured the council that their companies stood ready and willing (See CITY COUNCIL, Page 5)

BLOODSHED BOX SCORE

From midnight last Friday through midnight Monday, 12 persons were killed in North Carolina highway accidents and 163 were injured, the State Highway Patrol reported. Following is the box score for the same periods last year: Killed July 1 through July 4, 13; Injured July 1 through July 4, 173; Killed through July 4, this year, 369; Killed through July 4, 1948, 323; Injured through July 4, this year, 4,202; Injured through July 4, 1948, 3,477.

July Fourth Holiday Very Quiet in County

Washington County citizens spent an unusually quiet holiday week-end, according to law enforcement officers. Sheriff J. K. Reid reported no disturbances throughout the county during the three-day period. No one occupied the county jail.

R. W. Young, state highway patrolman, made no record of accidents. Week-end motorists in the county adhered very closely to traffic regulations. Chief Police P. W. Brown and his staff made no arrests as Plymouth citizens remained peaceful during the long week-end.

Extensive Damage Is Done to Farm Crops By Rains Last Week

Tobacco Said Hurt Worse Than Other Crops; Extent of Damage Is Not Fully Determined

Damage amounting to many thousands of dollars was done to Washington County farm crops by the heavy rains during the past week, according to reports from all sections of the county. The damage, while general throughout the area, was said to be somewhat "spotty," some farmers reporting almost a total loss while others were hurt very little. The reports are borne out by the observation of County Agent W. V. Hays, he stated yesterday afternoon.

Tobacco has been damaged extensively, some fields being completely gone. The exceptionally heavy rains from Tuesday through Friday flooded many of the fields, and the hot sun which came out Saturday and Sunday caused the leaf stalks to "flop." Several farmers in this immediate section reported losses ranging from very little to 40 per cent or more, and a few fields are said to be not worth trying to harvest. Practically all the fertilizer has been washed out of the soil, and the prospects for tobacco which did not "flop" are not considered too encouraging.

The wet spell has intensified insect and disease infestation, and crops not damaged by the rain will be below normal for this reason. County Agent Hays says practically every stalk of cotton in the county is infested with boll weevils, and few farmers are taking the trouble to dust for their control.

The farm agent said it was difficult to assess damage to the corn crop. In a good many places, corn does not appear to be hurt, but most of the fertilizer is gone, and this may affect the yield adversely. No extensive damage to soybeans and peanuts was reported, except in those fields completely under water. However, some samples of soybeans sent to extension workers for analysis are reported to be swarming with thrips, a small red bug about the size of the chigger, which destroys the leaf tissue. Where the thrips have a foothold, it is recommended that the plants be dusted with a 5% solution of DDT.

Mr. Hays said yesterday there was very little that could be done to offset the damage done. A great many fields are too wet to get a team or tractor in them even if additional plowing could be any additional benefit.

According to J. L. Rea, assistant director in charge of the Tidelwater Experiment Station about five miles east of Plymouth, nearly 8 inches of rain were recorded at that point last week, starting with Tuesday. He said, however, that he thought many sections of the county, especially from Plymouth south and west, had a much heavier rainfall.

The rains were general over northeastern North Carolina, and almost all the counties in this section reported crop damage. A 13-inch rain was recorded in the Mattamuskeet section of Hyde County, and even more than that was reported from some parts of Dare County.

CORRECTION

In an article in this paper last week concerning change of the name of the American Fork & Hoe Company to True Temper Corporation, effective July 1, names of several officials of the local plant were inadvertently omitted. C. E. Peckham is general manager of the local unit; Mrs. Ethel Sydenstricker is assistant manager; and Virgil Viroil is superintendent of the factory.

Organization Meet Friday, July 15th, For Tobacco Vote

Details of Referendum to Be Made Available to Every Farmer in County Eligible to Vote

An organizational meeting for the flue-cured tobacco marketing quota referendum will be held at the agriculture building here Friday of next week, July 15, at 8 p. m., to perfect plans for informing all county farmers about details of the voting, it was learned yesterday at the Washington County Triple-A office.

J. L. Kelton, of the state AAA office, will be in charge of the meeting and will assist in setting up a county organization to explain and conduct the referendum. All members of the USDA council, AAA community committees, other agricultural workers, merchants, and representatives of banks, farm organizations and civic clubs are invited and urged to attend. Each community committee is requested to bring four other farmers with him.

Details of the referendum will be explained and those present will be asked to carry the explanation back to their communities in order that every farmer eligible to vote has knowledge of the method and place of voting.

The referendum will be held on Saturday July 23, in all flue-cured tobacco producing areas. In Washington County, two polling places have been designated: at the agriculture building in Plymouth for the tobacco farmers of this area; and at Robert Sawyer's store in Roper for those of that area. The four tobacco growers of the Creswell section will vote in Roper. Polls will be open from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. F. C. Tar-kenton, W. C. Spruill and R. W. Lewis will be pollholders at Roper; and H. G. Simpson, Joe Snell and Wilson Bowen will conduct the voting in Plymouth.

Owners and operators of tobacco farms, landlords, tenants, share-croppers or any other person who has a direct interest in the proceeds of the 1949 tobacco crop are entitled to vote in the referendum.

Vote on Extending Levy for Tobacco

County tobacco growers will vote on continuing the assessment of 10 cents per acre for maintaining an export program at the same time and places of the marketing quota referendum on July 23, it was announced last week by Tobacco Associates, Inc. Under the terms of an act passed by the legislature in 1947, the board of directors of Tobacco Associates has voted for a referendum to be held Saturday, July 23, in every county in which flue-cured tobacco is grown. Growers will vote on the question of whether or not they wish to continue the annual assessment of 10 cents per acre of flue-cured tobacco planted in the years of 1950, 1951 and 1952. The purpose of the assessment is to raise the farmers' portion of funds necessary to maintain an export program for flue-cured tobacco better operated through Tobacco Associates, Inc.

Many Horses, Mules Die From "Staggers"

Washington County Farmers have lost a number of head of mals, and not a one of those vaccinated has been lost. However, he said this was a better record than even the Federal Department of Agriculture reports, as the vaccine is supposed to be only about 96 per cent effective. Cause of the disease among horses and mules is not definitely known, but Mr. Hays said there seems to be a direct connection between the malady and mosquitoes and green-headed horse flies. He believes that these insects are carriers of the disease, and it is most prevalent at the time mosquitoes and horse flies are most numerous.

This disease, according to the county agent, is most prevalent during hot damp periods of weather, and usually between the first of July and the first of September. He said that vaccination was usually effective in preventing the malady. During the last five years Mr. Hays said he had