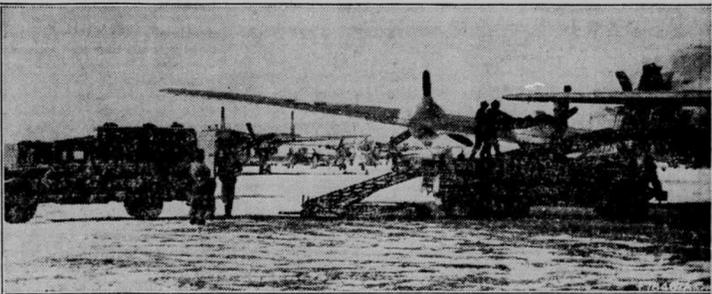


### EVACUATING WOUNDED BY AIR FROM KOREAN WAR ZONE



SAFE AT LAST ON HOSPITAL AIR STRIP—The final stage in the grim drama against hordes of Chinese Communists and subzero weather of the North Korean winter was set by this transport plane of the U. S. Far East Air Forces Combat Cargo Command loading wounded for air evacuation to Japan.

City Clerk W. A. Roebuck reported yesterday that sales of 1951 town license tags for motor vehicles had reached 594. The deadline for displaying old tags was midnight Wednesday. Around 700 or more tags were sold here last year.

Ernest Etheridge, proprietor of the garage and car dealership here that bears his name, has been confined to his home with a bad case of mumps for over a week now. Mr. Etheridge has the mumps on both sides.

The good-natured jests and hearty laughter of "Bill" Hays have been missing in the county agent's office for some time now. Mr. Hays has been in Arizona for about two weeks or more, and it is not known when he will return to Plymouth.

The recent warm days brought an increase of "business" to the Plymouth Fire Department as persons took advantage of the pretty weather to set grass fires. Such fires can really be hazardous, though, especially when the wind is high or blowing in the direction of nearby buildings.

Precipitation plus freezing temperatures brought icy roads to the county again Tuesday. However, highway workmen were quick to spread sand on bridges and other danger spots and motorists may have profited also, from the recent string of wrecks in the county during just such weather.

### Face-Lifting Job Now Being Given Local Gymnasium

Appearance of the Plymouth High School gymnasium has been greatly improved during the past week by painting, erecting new basketball backboards, and other work. It was learned from school officials that the outside of the building also is to be painted.

The interior has been given a two-tone paint job, the bottom part being painted a dark green, with the upper part in a light green pastel shade. The ceiling was painted white. Fan-shaped backboards have been installed, and cracks in the old wooden building have been puttied to hold the heat. The exterior of the structure is to be given two coats of white paint.

The class of 1950 presented the school with an electric scoreboard, and this has been installed in the gymnasium. It not only shows the score and quarter being played, but the clock carries official time, showing time elapsed and remaining in each period. The board is operated by push buttons from the scorer's table at the center of the gym.

Two gas heaters were installed earlier in the year, and the building is much more comfortable in bad weather than it has ever been. Local school officials are confident that the improved appearance and comfort of the building will result in much larger crowds attending home basketball games.

### Should Give Fire Truck Clear Path

Plymouth Police Chief P. W. Brown has issued a sharp warning to motorists who pull out ahead of the fire trucks when going to a fire. This practice is against the law and is extremely dangerous, the chief pointed out.

Only this week, there were some persons in cars parked on the street who attempted to pull out ahead of the truck which was answering an alarm. The police chief was on hand to avert a possible serious wreck, but he warns the public that occurrences of this may mean that someone will be killed or seriously hurt. When the fire sirens sound, motorists should pull over to the curb and give way to the fire trucks. They are also cautioned against following too closely behind the truck or parking too near the scene of a fire.

### Groundhog Due to Come Out Friday

Those who put their faith in the weather prognostications of the lowly groundhog will probably be busy at noon tomorrow (Friday) checking up on whether or not the little animal sees his shadow. According to legend, if the sun is shining at the time and the groundhog sees his shadow on February 2nd, when he allegedly ends his winter hibernation, then he returns to his lair and winter will continue to reign

### 26 Youths To Leave Friday for Physicals

Still Seized by Roper Firemen

Roper volunteer firemen were cast in a new role Monday, when they found an illicit liquor still while fighting a small forest fire in the Pea Ridge section. They were called to help extinguish a woods fire on property back of Bunk Long's service station, near the summer cabin of Dr. A. Papi-nau of Albemarle Sound.

They ran across the still and seized it, along with five gallons of moonshine whiskey. Some of the boys had visions of a big "party," but Robert Sawyer, of Roper, an ABC enforcement officer, happened to be along and took charge of the spirits, still and equipment. It could not be learned whether or not the fire originated at the still.

### Board Is Given Facts on Growth Of Library Here

In Eight Years, Total Volumes Have Increased from Less than 2,500 to Over 7,500

The Washington County Library Board held its regular meeting Tuesday, January 23, in the courthouse. Miss Evelyn Day Muller, state supervisor of rural libraries of North Carolina, met with the group and gave many valuable suggestions on the work.

In 1941-42 the Washington County Library had 2,418 books with a circulation of 10,090. In 1949-50, the total number of books had increased to 7,564 with a circulation of 39,168.

In the public libraries of North Carolina today there is half a book per person; in Washington County there is a little over a half book per person. The goal for adequate book and informational service is two books per person.

Since 1941 the per capita support of the local library has increased from two cents to eleven cents, this being one cent more than the state average—ten cents.

Mrs. Bryan Harris, bookmobile driver, reported a circulation of 5,682 books for the last quarter. Mrs. C. E. Ayers, librarian, reported 427 new books added this quarter, making a total of 7,991 with a circulation of 1,681. The circulation at Creswell as reported by Miss Weatherly for the last quarter was 1,647.

The library board is composed of Mrs. J. R. Campbell, chairman, Plymouth; Miss Lorna Weatherly, secretary, Creswell; Mrs. W. A. Blount, treasurer, Roper; Mrs. A. E. Davenport, Mackeys; Reynolds Spruill, Roper; Messrs. J. Shepherd Brinkley, R. F. Lowry, E. E. Harrell and E. M. Leavitt and Mrs. L. S. Thompson, Plymouth.

### Groundhog Due to Come Out Friday

for forty more days. On the other hand, if he fails to see his shadow, then he remains out and spring is not far away. However, regardless of the groundhog's predictions and the state of the weather for the next 40 days, folks in this part of the world figure they are ahead of old man winter thus far, even though not nearly so much as a year ago, when about the mildest January in recent memory was enjoyed.

### General Assembly Has Settled Down To Routine Work

Woolard Will Attend Board Meetings Monday; No Local Legislation Proposed Thus Far

Washington County Representative W. J. Woolard, while at home last week-end, stated that he planned to attend the first Monday meetings of the county board of education and commissioners here next Monday to ascertain if any local legislation is desired by either group during the present session of the General Assembly. He said he would remain over as long as necessary to take up any possible legislation that the county governing bodies may consider advisable or necessary.

The representative said he had been approached by several individuals about legislative action during the present session of the legislature. He stated, however, that he wished to work closely with county officials and that he did not plan to sponsor any measures until public notice had been given. His actions at Raleigh will largely be governed by the wishes of the local boards, he indicated.

Mr. Woolard said that the assembly was settling down to the routine business of the session, and numerous matters of statewide importance are being considered by several committees of which he is a member. Many bills are being introduced in both houses, but formal sessions of the assembly will continue to be short until some of the more controversial matters, now being considered by committees, reach the floor. Few messengers, except those of a purely local nature, have been enacted thus far.

### Veterans Change Time of Meeting

Commander W. J. Weaver of the Plymouth Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, has announced a change in plans for the meeting to be held Thursday night. It was first announced that this meeting would be held in the basement of the new veterans' building here. It was since learned that construction is not sufficiently progressed to warrant meeting there as planned. The place has been changed to the courthouse. The time of the meeting has been announced as 8:30 o'clock.

### First Herring of Season Reported at Williamston

The first herring to be taken from Roanoke River this year was reported from Williamston the first of this week. George Hardison is said to have caught one in a wire net. It was about normal in size, the report stated.

Reports of the first Roanoke herring each season usually come from Jamesville, as a rule, around Groundhog day. Called the "key to the smokehouse," fishermen once vied for the honor of bringing it in. However, the herring has lost a lot of its economic importance in this section in later years, and relatively few are caught now.

### Play Casting to Begin Next Week

Casting will begin next week for a play, "Simon the Leper," to be presented in Plymouth sometime around Easter, it was announced today by Mrs. W. J. Weaver, of Plymouth, who will direct the play.

The sponsoring group is the Woman's Missionary Society of the First Christian Church, it was announced. There are four male and four female roles in the play, which is on a religious subject. Anyone interesting in acting in the play, or in subsequent plays which it is planned to present, are asked to communicate with Mrs. Weaver early next week, or before.

### Local Post Office Narrowly Misses On Higher Rating

Total Receipts for 1950 Fall By Less Than \$8 of Lifting Office Into the Next Higher Bracket

By the scant margin of only \$7.75, the Plymouth post office failed to reach a higher bracket for total receipts during 1950. That fact was revealed yesterday by Postmaster J. C. Swain, who commented that he could have purchased "\$8 worth of postage stamps and thrown them in a waste basket and made money."

In explaining, the postmaster stated that second class offices are divided into 7 classifications, depending on their receipts during the year. The local office, a second class one, has been in the third highest classification for the past five years.

All receipts, such as stamps sales, stamp paper sales, second class postage and box rents, which are accredited to the local office go toward determining the classification. The first bracket is for yearly receipts of from \$8,000 to \$12,000; the second, \$12,000 to \$15,000; the third, \$15,000-\$18,000; the fourth, \$18,000 - \$22,000; the fifth, \$22,000 - \$27,000; the sixth, \$27,000 - \$33,000; and the seventh, \$33,000-\$40,000. Receipts of over \$40,000 per year entitle an office to first class rating.

Total receipts for the year were \$26,992.25 at the Plymouth post office, the biggest single item being the sale of stamps which totaled \$24,898.04. This was divided into quarterly sales as follows: (first quarter through fourth): \$5,538.46; \$5,750.10; \$4,821.80; and \$8,787.68.

### Draft Regulations Affecting College Students Changed

New Program Permits Reopening Classification to Permit Volunteering Before End of Term

New regulations received yesterday by the office of the Washington County Selective Service Board will enable college students to remain in school until the end of the current term and still enlist in the service of their choice. The new program is designed to halt a rush by students to drop out of school in order to enlist in the air force or navy.

Heretofore, after college students received orders to report for their pre-induction examination they were not permitted to volunteer, although their actual induction might be deferred until the end of the school year. The same thing applies to students in high schools, but no mention was made of them in the new regulations received this week by the local board.

The Defense Department announced the new plan about two weeks ago, but some features of it were found to conflict with existing regulations. There also was considerable confusion among students and draft board officials as to how the plan would operate. To eliminate the conflicts and clear up the confusion, the Defense Department and Selective Service got together last Thursday and made additional changes in draft rules to legalize the program.

Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey announced that

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### Sale of Licenses Near 2000 Mark

Slightly less than 400 sets of state license plates for motor vehicles were reported sold to the branch office of the Carolina Motor Club at The Etheridge Company here from late last Wednesday through Monday of this week. The total sales through Monday stand at 1,923 sets. Sets have been sold in the various categories as follows:

Automobiles, 1,446; motorcycles, 10; private trucks, 266; farm trucks, 42; small trailers, 113; and commercial trailers, 46. Every motor vehicle must carry new license plates from now on or be subject to prosecution if caught driving without them. All persons living within the city limits of Plymouth must display city tags from now on or be subject to prosecution. The deadline for displaying old license tags was midnight, Wednesday, January 31.

### Extend County Drive for Infantile Paralysis Funds

Scouts Here to Collect Clothing February 11

As part of a national drive, the Plymouth troops of Boy Scouts will canvass the town Sunday, February 11 to collect old clothing which will be shipped overseas for the relief of unfortunate persons, local scouting officials have announced.

A program to stimulate interest in the drive has been announced. A parade of various local scouting units, including Boy Scouts, Sea Scouts, Cub Scouts and the local colored troop of Boy Scouts will be staged Thursday, February 8.

### No Extension of Time For Listing Property

Number of Property Owners in County Subject to 10 Per Cent Penalty for Failure to List

The period for listing 1951 county and city taxes expired yesterday at the close of the listing day and, according to available reports, found a good many tax payers in the position of not having listed. This is an unenviable position as no extension of the normal listing period has been provided, and it is understood that delinquents will be penalized 10 per cent for late listing, as provided by law.

The expected last minute rush had failed to materialize in the office of the city clerk here by late afternoon. Perhaps the weather had something to do with the situation. List Taker Clarence L. Blount announced that something over two thirds of the approximately 2,200 property owners in Plymouth Township had listed.

H. L. Davenport, county tax supervisor, could not be contacted here yesterday for information on the progress of listing in the other three townships of the county. However, it is thought that the general trend was about the same throughout the county and that there will be a good many taxpayers to suffer the penalty for failure to list within the prescribed time.

City List Taker W. A. Roebuck reported yesterday that there were very few persons who failed to list their 1951 holdings with him, especially among the white property owners.

List takers who served in the three townships other than Plymouth Township are: R. W. Lewis, Lees Mill Township; W. W. White, Skinnersville Township; and P. B. Belanga, Scuppernon Township.

### Four Fire Calls Past Three Days

Four fire alarms this week swelled the total for the past two weeks to seven, as local firemen were called out Sunday, Tuesday Monday and again Tuesday. But none of the fires was of a serious nature and very little damage was reported.

Sunday at noon the firemen were called to Stillcrans where a grass fire was burning on a vacant lot. There was no damage.

Monday afternoon about 1 o'clock the firemen were summoned to a grass fire back of the Etheridge Company. No damage was reported. Later in the afternoon, the busy firemen answered an alarm on Wilson Street extended which proved to be a roof fire at the Arnold residence. This blaze is said to have started from sparks from a nearby grass fire. The damage to the roof was reported as slight.

At 4:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, the firemen were again called out, this time to extinguish a stove fire at the Dutch Grill. Very little damage resulted from the blaze.

Attending last week's meeting here were the following: C. W. Bowen, Heber Respass and Miriam Ausbon, of the County FMA; Vocational teachers Banks and Tucker; Nathaniel Holton, veterans instructor at Belhaven; Miss Carolyn Brinkley, of the Plymouth High School faculty; Mrs. Darden; J. L. Rea, of the Experiment Station; Mr. Newland and Ed Craft, of the Soil Conservation Service.

### Price Freeze Has Little Effect Here

The price and wage freeze ordered last Friday by the Office of Price Stabilization has had little or no effect on the local front, so far as could be learned here this week. The price freeze limited prices on many items to the highest levels they had attained in the period between December 19 and January 25; but so many other items are not included in the order that local retailers are waiting for further explanation

### County Quota of \$3,000 Less Than Two-Thirds Reached; Bake Sale, Birthday Ball Here Saturday

The March of Dimes campaign period has been extended indefinitely in Washington County, it was announced today by Thomas F. Hopkins, of Plymouth, county director of the drive.

With the regular period of the annual polio fund-raising campaign closing yesterday, it was said that around \$1,800 had been reported collected thus far, against a county quota of \$3,000. The quota set for the county was the highest in the history of the yearly campaigns, the quota for last year having been \$2,500. It was realized following a short extension of the time.

Hopkins was confident yesterday that collections through next Monday will swell the county total to \$2,500. He pointed out that the contributions which have been placed in lapel receptacles which the business men of Plymouth have been wearing, have been placed in paper lung containers and these are to be picked up Monday. It was believed that they would augment the fund total by about \$300.

Money reported to date includes \$37 donated by the Town of Plymouth from parking meter receipts last Friday and Saturday; \$60 realized from a benefit basketball double-header recently staged at Roper between the high school teams and All-Star cagers; and \$30 contributed by fans who attended the recent Plymouth-Belhaven high school basketball twin bill in the local school gymnasium.

Hopkins stated that a bake sale has been planned for Friday and Saturday of this week at the Norman Furniture Company store on East Water Street. Cakes, other pastries, candies and possibly some canned fruits or vegetables, made by local ladies will be offered for sale and the proceeds donated to the March of Dimes.

On Saturday night, beginning at 9 o'clock, in the high school gymnasium here the President's Birthday Ball will be held, with all proceeds going into the polio fund. The J. J. Clemmons High School orchestra of Roper will furnish the music for the ball. A queen, to be selected from among several high school contestants, will be crowned during the ball and other contestants will attend her as princesses in her court. Tickets for the ball are on sale in Creswell, Roper and Plymouth, the county director said.

Another source of funds for the polio campaign is the animal exhibit which is showing in Plymouth throughout this week. Hopkins stated that 25 per cent of the proceeds are being given to the polio fund. With these added sources, and with the continued cooperation of persons throughout the county, the director is hopeful that Washington County will again go over the top in this annual drive. The need is great, it was pointed out, as National Foundation funds were exhausted in 1950 by the second greatest epidemic of polio ever. More than 33,000 cases were reported throughout the nation in 1950, it was said.

### County and Town Board Meetings

The county board of commissioners, board of education and the Plymouth town council will hold their regular meetings next Monday, with routine business scheduled for consideration in each case. The county boards will hold their first Monday meetings in the courthouse, convening as usual at 10 o'clock. The city council will meet at the municipal building on Water Street Monday night at 8 o'clock.

So far as could be learned late yesterday, only routine matters are on the agenda, although it is quite possible that something out of the ordinary may develop at each of the meetings.

### Price Freeze Has Little Effect Here

how they are affected individually. Principal complaints heard thus far is by wage earners, who claim the order was so long delayed that the prices of many commodities had already reached record high levels, and they feel that a rollback is in order. There have been hints by some of the government's policy makers that such a course is under consideration.