

Merry Christmas

1952

Town Topics

A Plymouth boy, William F. Landing, was one of eighty-five students at East Carolina College, Greenville, who completed college work toward a degree at the end of the fall quarter. Along with the others, Landing will receive his degree at commencement exercises to be held in May, 1953, according to an announcement from Registrar Orval L. Phillips. Landing, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Landing, will receive an AB degree.

Plymouth Volunteer Firemen should enjoy a "sweet" Christmas this year. Fire Chief Miller Warren and 25 firemen received two pounds of honey each as a gift from Eli Winesett, local beekeeper. The firemen are very grateful and have expressed their appreciation of Mr. Winesett's kindness. However, no one has been heard to say that it was sweet of him to give the honey.

The Beacon has one loyal fan in three-year-old Mary Elizabeth Dinkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Dinkins. Of course, she can't read, and we'd just as soon not hear any of the wisecracks you may be thinking up in that connection. Anyway, according to her daddy, Mary Elizabeth thinks the Beacon is the best paper there is because it has had so many pictures of Santa Claus during the past few weeks. This issue ought to just suit her, because if Santa is missing from any one of its 16 pages then somebody has slipped up, and we here by dedicate it to Mary Elizabeth and all others who enjoy looking at old Saint Nick.

Robert B. Spencer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Otis Spencer, of Plymouth, will have a part in the program preceding lighting of the National Community Christmas Tree on the White House lawn Christmas Eve. Business manager of the American Forestry Association at Washington, D. C., young Spencer will have a seat on the platform behind President Truman when the latter makes his speech and turns lights on the tree. The program will be televised, beginning at 4:30 and Spencer wrote his parents to be on the lookout for him.

There was no need for local residents to hunt for their Christmas turkey this year. All required was a bit of folding money. There were several small trucks and trailers parked on Water Street Saturday offering some mighty fine looking specimens of toms and hens to the buying public.

Winter officially began this year on Sunday afternoon, December 21. Jack Frost became king at exactly 4:44 p. m. Sunday and will remain until March, 1953.

Christmas Photographs Lost In Holiday Rush

Several local Christmas photographs were due to appear in this issue of The Beacon, but due to holiday rush on bus and mail routes have been lost. The photos were made and sent to the engravers early last week in plenty of time, but they failed to show up when The Beacon was printed Monday morning and hence will have to appear later, if at all.

W. C. Jones Home From Rocky Mount Hospital

W. C. Jones returned home Sunday from a Rocky Mount hospital where he had been for examination since Thursday morning of last week. Mr. Jones, a long-time employee of the Norfolk-Southern Railway Company, was taken ill at his home Thursday morning at about 4 o'clock. He was treated by Dr. T. L. Bray and sent on to the hospital.

Big Crowd Welcomes Santa Claus

A large crowd, old and young alike, was on hand here Friday afternoon to greet Santa Claus and welcome him to Plymouth, and to watch the parade featuring the bands of Plymouth High School, Plymouth Colored High School and J. J. Clemmons High School, of Roper.

Many of the little folks in the crowd got a chance to say hello to Santa and put in their order for Christmas toys and gifts. The candy which the merry old gen-

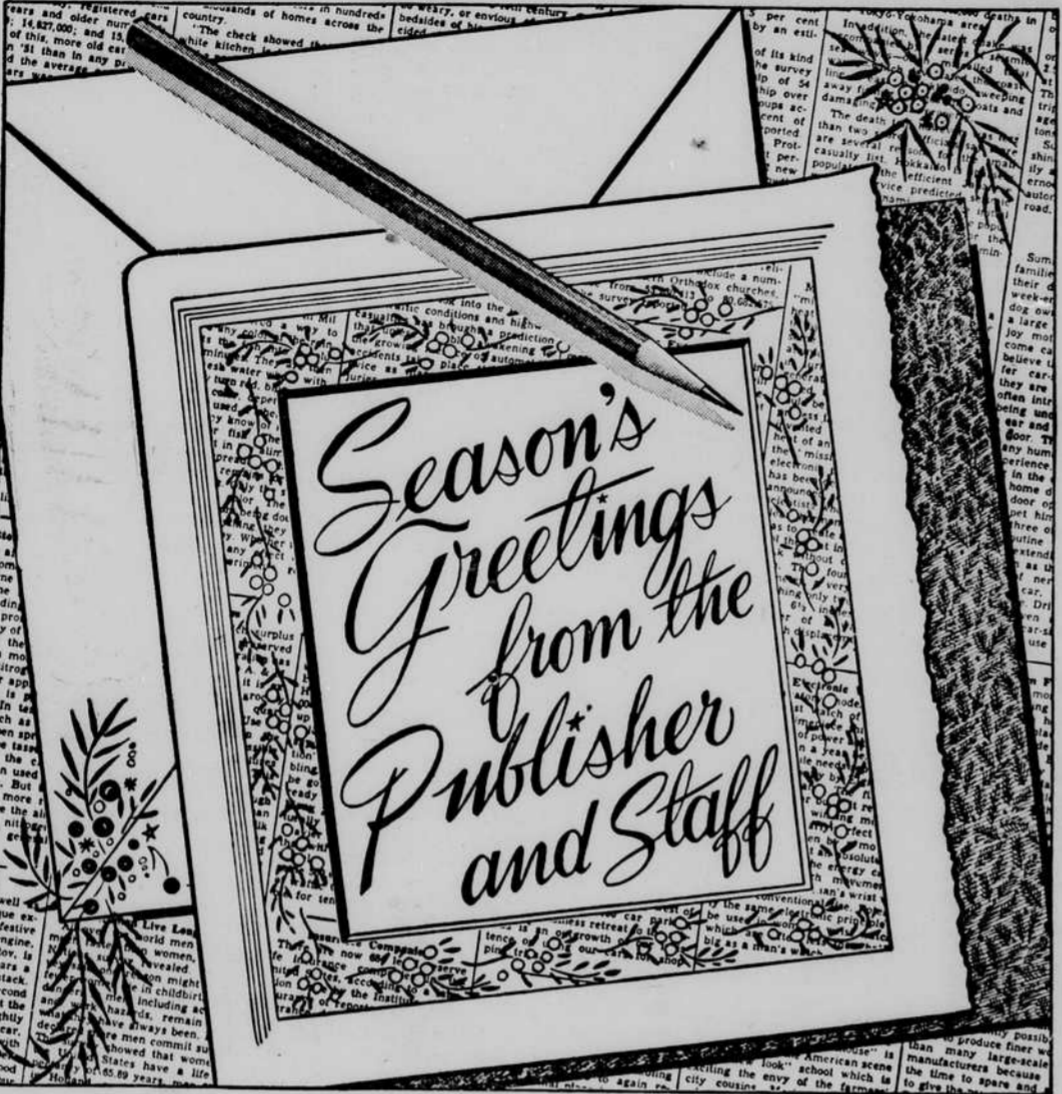
THE ROANOKE BEACON

AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

VOLUME LXIII—NUMBER 25 Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, For Thursday, December 25, 1952

A home newspaper dedicated to the service of Washington County and its 13,000 people.

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Christmas Programs At County Churches

Two Days Left For Shopping

Only two more days are left for last-minute gift shoppers. Store owners and clerks are anticipating a grand whirl of last-minute scurrying by shoppers who have not completed their annual buying of presents. Naturally, stocks in Plymouth stores are not near so complete as earlier in the Christmas shopping season, but store personnel will be glad to assist with helpful suggestions and many fine gift items remain on shelves for the late-comers' benefit.

Care Urged During Holidays by Police and Fire Officials

The Plymouth Police Department and other law enforcement agencies call attention of the Christmas shopping public to the fact that this is the favorite season for thieves to operate; many fires caused in past by faulty wiring.

Favorite Season for Thieves To Operate; Many Fires Caused in Past by Faulty Wiring

The Plymouth Police Department and other law enforcement agencies call attention of the Christmas shopping public to the fact that this is the favorite season for thieves to operate; many fires caused in past by faulty wiring.

Special Christmas Sermons, Cantatas Included in Services Announced for Local Churches

Special Christmas programs have been announced for some of the local churches, and although no announcements have been received from churches in other parts of the county, with the exception of Roper, it is thought that the special services will be general throughout the county as in past seasons.

Some of the services and activities incident to the Christmas season have already taken place. Sunday afternoon at Grace Episcopal Church here the customary Christmas program for the church school was held, beginning at 5 o'clock. There was a beautifully decorated tree and gifts were passed out to the children. The children's Christmas offering was also taken.

The choir of the First Christian Church, under the direction of Mrs. Marie Newland, presented a sacred cantata, "A Child Is Born," by Noel Benson, Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The melody was sung by a two part chorus composed of Misses Jane Crofton, Myrtle Jackson, Betty Jean Jackson, Alva Roe Hardison and Beulah A. Cratch and Mrs. Frances Lucas.

A Christmas party for pupils of the primary grades of the Sunday School was held from 2 to 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon at Plymouth Methodist Church and was well attended. The party was in charge of Mrs. C. E. Peckham, superintendent of the primary department of the school. Light refreshments were served by the teachers in the department.

The Christmas party at the

Bowen Reelected To Head County PMA Committee

Community Delegates Elect Committee at County Convention at Agriculture Building Here Friday

Three of the five elective members of the Washington County PMA committee were reelected Friday at the annual county convention held at the Agriculture Building here. Six delegates from various communities, duly elected in a county-wide vote of farmers the previous day, made nominations and voted by secret ballot.

Reelected were Chairman C. W. Bowen, Plymouth; Vice Chairman W. C. Spruill, Plymouth; and Regular Member L. L. Davenport, Creswell.

Newly elected were David Craddock, Plymouth, first alternate, replacing R. C. Peacock, of Roper; and W. W. White, Roper, second alternate, replacing J. C. Snell, of Plymouth.

The secretary, Miss Miriam Auson, and the treasurer, Mrs. Florence P. Oliver, were reappointed by the newly elected county committee.

Delegates attending the convention were W. W. White, representing the Pleasant Grove community; R. W. Lewis, Roper community; W. H. Gurkin, Plymouth community; C. S. Heynen, Long Acre community; Winton Oliver, Creswell community; and Heber Alligood, Mt. Pleasant community. H. S. Woodley, delegate from

Local Boy Home From England for Christmas

A/2c Hugh Modlin, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Modlin, of Plymouth, was one of 500 service men stationed in England who, as Airman Modlin stated it, "put our heads together and chartered seven planes to bring us home for Christmas." The young man arrived home from New York Friday on a 30-day leave. He said the men tried every way they could think of from the Pentagon on down to get military arrangements made to fly them home for Christmas but the planes were not available. So they contacted a commercial line and secured cut rates on the flight. It was all right with the military, he said, but some of the other large air lines squawked about the cut rates. Airman Modlin will leave New York January 14 for the return flight to England.

Many Employees Of Pulp Company Get Service Pins

Five Men With 25 Years Service Honored at 'Old-Timers' Dinner' Here Last Thursday Night

Recognition for loyal service was given to several groups of North Carolina Pulp Company employees who have been with the Kieckhefer firm for 15 years or more at a series of events here Thursday last week. About 40 employees received bronze pins for 15 years with the company; one Man, Jennings Ward, was awarded a silver pin for 20 years' service; and the day was climaxed by the "Old-Timers' dinner" at the Country Club of Plymouth Thursday night for 28 men who have been with the company 25 years or more.

Pins for 15 and 20 years' service were presented in the conference room at the pulp plant Thursday afternoon. J. A. Auchter, vice president of Kieckhefer Container Company and manager of the North Carolina Pulp Company here, in making the presentations, expressed his appreciation for the loyalty shown by members of the group. He pointed out that most of the 15-year employees were originally employed by the company when the Plymouth plant was constructed in 1917, and this is the first year members of that group became eligible for the bronze pins. Those in longer service were employed at other Kieckhefer plants before coming to Plymouth.

At the "Old-Timers' party" Thursday night, five employees who had just completed 25 years' service with the company were honored guests, and each received a Hamilton gold watch in addition to their service pin.

Tax Supervisor, Listers To Meet

A special meeting of the Washington County Board of Commissioners, the county tax supervisor and tax listers of the several townships, is being held Monday night of this week, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. The meeting is being held at the courthouse here. Purpose of the meeting is to administer the oath of office to the supervisor and list takers and to establish uniform prices for listing livestock and other items of property in the annual listing which is held during the month of January.

Hubert L. Davenport, of Skippersville, is county tax supervisor and listers, by townships, are: Paul B. Belanga, Scuppernon Township; R. W. Lewis, Lees Mill Township; Clarence L. Blount, Plymouth Township; and W. W. White, Skippersville Township.

Officer Hurt in Freak Accident

In a hearing before Magistrate C. M. Beasley, Williams was bound over to recorder's court under \$1,000 bond. He will be tried Tuesday on a charge of possession of non-taxpaid whiskey for the purpose of sale. Foy Davenport, Plymouth police officer, received a gash over an eye in a freak accident at the home of James Williams, colored, in the Sugar Hill section Friday night between 7:30 and 8 o'clock. The gash required three stitches to close.

Davenport and a fellow officer, Paul Basnight, went to Williams' home armed with a search warrant. When Williams answered the door, Basnight began to read the warrant. Meantime, Williams seized a pitcher alleged to have contained spirituous liquor. Basnight grabbed Williams, pinning his arms. As Williams continued to struggle in an effort to dash the contents of the pitcher out the door, Davenport bent over to get the pitcher. He was hit in the face as Williams swung the pitcher up, trying to get rid of it.

Local Holiday Schedules Will Be Longer This Year

Local Business Houses Send Annual Greetings

The business firms and merchants of Plymouth are again extending holiday greetings to their patrons in the county through the columns of The Roanoke Beacon as an expression of their sincere appreciation for the business given them during the year now drawing to a close, and as a token of friendship.

To embrace the Yuletide spirit of comradeship and good will to all, these business firms

of Plymouth extend their wishes to everyone everywhere for "A Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous New Year." The greeting pages and advertisements in the Beacon have become a Washington County institution at Christmas every year. Read the little messages, which help the season to be let more than just merely firm and individual represented is glad that there are still prospects for "Peace on earth" to be realized.

Stocking Fund Drive Most Successful Ever

Chairman Lauds Good Response; More Families To Receive Gifts Than in Any Past Season, Said

The most successful Empty Stocking Fund in the history of the project in this county is being brought to a finish with distribution of gift packages to needy families Monday and Tuesday of this week.

That was the report from Leroy Ange, of Plymouth, Saturday. Arrangements have been made for about 15 or 20 boys from Plymouth Colored School and the J. J. Clemmons School, of Roper, to distribute the packages to some 250 or more families throughout the county. Trucks are being furnished by various Plymouth merchants.

The \$1,500 estimated needed to successfully put over the project this year has been raised, Mr. Ange said, and receipts of food, clothing and toys have been unusually good.

"We are getting some very nice toys through the generosity of Plymouth merchants and others," Mr. Ange said. "The clothing is extra good, for which we are very thankful."

Mr. Ange and P. B. Bateman, who was also quite active in furthering the fund drive, declared that the response this year was far and away the best ever.

A few volunteer workers were busy as bees at the Agriculture Building auditorium here Saturday sorting items for packaging. Additional supplies of fruits, other foods and miscellaneous items were being trucked in and stored in the auditorium.

Mr. Ange said arrangements had been completed for many more workers to be on the job early Monday and that he hoped the huge task of sorting and packing would be completed during the day.

Many more families are being cared for through the project this year than in any previous year, it was said. Also, gift boxes are larger, meaning that each needy family will be more bountifully taken care of this Christmas season.

The Empty Stocking Fund was sponsored by the Plymouth Rotary Club, with the active support of the county department of Public Welfare, several other organizations and individuals.

So, if you want to obtain a license before Christmas you'd better hurry down to the register of deeds office in the courthouse here right away, advises J. Robert Campbell, register of deeds, who issues the permits.



INFLATION . . . Santa supervises while one of his helpers inflates a doll. The benevolent old gent looks on with interest. Perhaps he is thinking inflation is not confined to economics.

Seal Sale Drive in County Now Past Half-Way Mark

Total Receipts Now Over \$500, Against County Quota of \$850, Mrs. A. L. Jackson Reports

The annual Christmas Seal Sale in Washington County is now well over the half-way mark, Mrs. A. L. Jackson, of Plymouth, chairman of the sale, announced Saturday.

Mrs. Jackson said response in the last few days had been good and the amount in hand is now over \$500, against the quota set for the county of \$850.

Response from county citizens to the seal letters sent out in November lagged at first, but has shown a marked improvement in recent days. Reminder cards were recently mailed to those who had not previously responded to the seal letters.

The seal sale is being conducted in the county this year by the Washington County Tuberculosis Committee, under sponsorship of the Plymouth Woman's Club.

Funds from the 1952 campaign will be used for the association's

See SEAL SALE, Page 5

Most Business Houses Closing for Two Days; Schools Will Not Reopen Until Monday, January 5

Varied Christmas holiday schedules will prevail among Plymouth's industrial and business establishments this year, with the closings ranging all the way from one to 12 days, the latter length holiday period being enjoyed by faculties and student bodies of the various county schools.

Practically all stores and business establishments in town, other than restaurants, drug stores and service stations, will be closed from Wednesday night until Saturday morning at the usual opening hour, giving employees and owners a two-day rest spell. This action was voted at the last meeting of the Plymouth Merchants Association.

Local establishments which will observe Christmas Day only and reopen for business Friday, December 26, include the post office and drug stores, although the latter will observe the usual Sunday hours on Christmas Day. Most of the restaurants are expected to be open for at least half of Christmas Day. Service stations, too, will be open during the morning hours that day, it is thought. The bank will reopen for business Friday.

The North Carolina Pulp Company has announced that its plant will shut down Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock and resume operations the following Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock. The office will be closed Tuesday at 5 p. m. to reopen the following Monday.

The Atlas Plywood Corporation will cease operations Wednesday afternoon and resume the following Monday morning.

The True Temper Corporation will close down for the holidays Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock and will reopen Monday, December 29, at 7 a. m.

Offices in the courthouse and at the Agriculture Building will close Tuesday and reopen the following Monday, county offices observing the same holiday as state and federal employees.

The Roanoke Beacon office will be closed after Monday, December 22, to reopen Tuesday morning, December 30, at the usual hour.

It is expected that all local garages will observe about the same period. Several garages have made announcement of closing Christmas Eve and reopening the following Monday.

Tobacco Meeting Here December 29

A meeting for tobacco farmers of Washington County will be held Monday night, December 29, at the Agriculture Building here, County Agent W. H. Pruden has announced.

Harold Nau, extension tobacco specialist of N. C. State College, Raleigh, will be on hand to discuss all phases of tobacco, including plant bed, varieties, nematode control, fertilization, curing, sucker control and all other phases of the important cash crop, Pruden said.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p. m. and all tobacco growers of the county and other interested persons are cordially invited to be present, the county agent said.

Beacon Office Closed Until December 30th

The Roanoke Beacon office will be closed after Monday, December 22, through Monday, December 29, reopening for business Tuesday morning, December 30. This is one of the few holiday occasions observed by the newspaper and staff members will vacation and observe the Christmas holidays at the same time.

The Beacon staff wishes to every reader and advertiser a Merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous New Year.