



Town Topics

THE ROANOKE BEACON

AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

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Christmas is a time of year when folks who can generally head for home. There are those who would like to do just that but can't, however. One of these is Seaman J. T. Terry, jr., of the U. S. Navy. Young Terry is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Terry, of Plymouth. Mr. Terry stated Sunday that Tom would spend Christmas in faraway Hongkong, China. His ship, the U. S. S. Wisconsin, is presently at the naval base at Kokohama, Japan, it is understood.

Plymouth stores have remained open nightly during the Christmas shopping period as has been the local custom in past seasons. However, the recent bitter cold nights found very few people "uptown" after the supper hour, merchants say. The stores will continue the longer hours daily through Thursday of this week, as an added convenience to last-minute holiday shoppers.

Among persons who will doubtless be glad when the holiday season is over could be listed the post office personnel. The rush is always terrific at Christmastime and this year was no exception, according to Postmaster J. C. Swain.

Sales of motor vehicles license plates at the local office of the Carolina Motor Club on Washington Street continue rather slow, according to the latest report from Manager James H. Ward. Deadline for displaying the new state tags is January 31.

Draw Names of 75 For Jury Duty at Term Next Month

Forty-Five Drawn by County Commissioners for Service at First Week of Court, 30 at Second

Names of jurors to serve during the two-week term of Washington County Superior Court scheduled to open here Monday, January 4, were recently drawn by the Board of county commissioners.

In all, 75 names were drawn, 45 to serve during the first week of court and 30 during the second. For the first week, there are 24 from Plymouth Township, nine from Scuppernon, eight from Lees Mill and four from Skinnerville.

For the second week there are 15 from Plymouth Township, seven from Scuppernon, six from Lees Mill and two from Skinnerville Township.

The list: First week—Plymouth Township: Clarence C. Brown, L. M. Mooney, J. P. Oliver, Shelton M. Bowser, R. M. Daniels, F. C. Bickerstaff, C. H. Robertson, Aubrey Garrett, Monroe Sawyer, Clarence W. Waters, W. J. Gurganus Mrs. Thelma S. Waters, King Robbins, sr., E. W. Modlin, Leonard B. Ayers, James G. Bland, M. T. Sitterson, Ira J. Frymier, George W. Waters, Harold Phelps, C. O. Kelly, Murray H. Askev, L. W. Gurkin, jr., George T. Barden.

Lees Mill Township: H. S. Everett, M. C. Furlough, J. D. Miller, Carlton H. Phelps, H. C. Harrison, W. W. Mizelle, Raymond Earl Phelps, G. G. Gaylord.

Scuppernon Township: Leamon Ambrose, D. A. Furlough, Lyle Woodley, J. I. Ainsley, Hillie A. Davenport, Jessie W. Spruill, L. H. Ambrose, Junior W. Phelps, L. A. Phelps.

Skinnerville Township: Mary V. Pharr, C. W. Furlough, L. H. Leary, Fay Spruill.

Second week—Plymouth Township: Harry McNair, Walter G. Davis, Clarence E. Bowen, Woodrow W. Dixon, John H. Jethro, S. H. Brinkley, Edwin F. Bagans, J. H. Liverman, Mrs. Neva B. Harrison, Luther R. Bowen, F. R. Harris, Sterling Sitterson, L. M. Askev, H. F. Waters, Dan R. Satterthwaite.

Skinnerville Township: J. A. Goodman, L. M. Davenport.

Lees Mill Township: W. A. Koonce, S. L. Davenport, Mrs. L. R. Davenport, S. W. Spruill, W. R. Chesson, W. J. Skiles.

THIS IS JUST A PART OF LARGEST CROWD IN YEARS AT PLYMOUTH



The above photo was taken on Water Street here during the Christmas parade and Santa Claus party and shows a small part of the crowd estimated at 3,000 which flocked here for Santa's annual visit. There were hundreds of children on hand for the happy occasion and they were rewarded with candy handed out by Santa and his helpers. Nearly 2,500 bags of Christmas Candy were distributed in an hour as child after child filed past the platform facing Washington Street. The Plymouth High School band and the Washington County Union School at Roper took part in the parade and played carols while standing at right angles to each other, the Union School band on Washington Street and the local band on Water Street. The two bands were so hemmed in by the huge, pressing crowd that officers had to move them back before the bands could march off at the end of the hour. Thos F. Hopkins—at the mike—was master of ceremonies.—Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

Stocking Fund Boxes Are Being Delivered

To Possess Fire Crackers Illegal

In reminding local residents that State law prohibits the shooting of fireworks, Plymouth Police Chief P. W. Brown stated that the law also considers the possession of fireworks illegal.

Mr. Brown said that while the use of cap pistols by little boys probably would not be considered as shooting fireworks, those who play around with fire crackers, roman candles, sky rockets and other similar pyrotechnics are liable to arrest and prosecution with penalties provided by law being imposed on those found guilty of the offense.

Mrs. Anne Smith Dies Near Roper

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at Horner's Funeral Home for Mrs. Anne Swain Smith, 74, of Roper RFD.

Mrs. Smith died at her home Thursday at 6:30 p. m., after a long illness. She was the daughter of the late Haywood and Durpene Swain of this county and was born May 7, 1879. She spent her entire life in the county.

Her marriage to Ralph Smith, of Clairview, Pa., took place February 2, 1927.

Mrs. Smith was a member of Saints Delight Church of Christ, near Roper.

Surviving are her husband; a sister, Miss Alberta Swain, of Roper; and one brother, Josephus Swain, also of Roper.

Services were conducted by the Rev. Frank Butler, of Washington. Interment was in Swain Cemetery, near the home.

Creswell Businesses To Observed December 25-26

All stores and places of business in Creswell will observe December 25 and 26 as Christmas holidays this season, it is announced.

All customers and patrons are asked to cooperate in order that the merchants and their sales people can enjoy the holiday season with them.

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

Deliveries of Empty Stocking Fund Christmas packages of food, clothing and toys to 260 needy Washington County families were begun Saturday and it was expected that the work would be completed by Tuesday of this week, James Boyce, chairman of the project, reports.

The tremendous sorting and packaging job was started Friday night in the auditorium of the Agriculture Building here, with about 30 volunteer workers on hand.

The project is sponsored in the county each year by the Plymouth County Tuberculosis Committee under sponsorship of the Plymouth Woman's Club.

Funds from the 1953 campaign will be used for the association's 1954 tuberculosis control program, including x-ray clinics, assisting tubercular patients and in educational programs in the various schools.

Mrs. Shugar, as chairman, issued this week a statement of appreciation for the wonderful response thus far and a kindly urging that those who have not yet responded to the seal letters do so just as quickly as possible in order that the campaign may be brought to a conclusion. "I want to take this opportunity," Mrs. Shugar said, "to thank each and every one of you who participated in the Washington County Christmas Seal Sale drive. Your splendid response to this worthy cause was, indeed, gratifying."

"To those of you who have not as yet responded, it will be greatly appreciated at the earliest date possible in order that this drive may be brought to a successful conclusion."

Veterans Sponsor Dance This Week

The local posts of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars are jointly sponsoring a big after-Christmas dance at the Veterans Building here Saturday night of this week.

Dancing will start at 9 o'clock and continue until 1 a. m., with music to be furnished by Ski's Combo, it was said.

Dance officials reported a good advance ticket sale at \$1 per person. Those who purchase tickets at the door will pay \$1.50.

The club will be colorful for the occasion and a large crowd from the county and surrounding areas is anticipated, spokesmen stated.

Seal Sale Drive in County Now Well Ahead Last Year

The annual Christmas Seal Sale in Washington County is now well ahead of the pace of the drive conducted last year, it was revealed this week.

Mrs. Lillian Shugar, of Plymouth, county Seal Sale chairman, stated that receipts from the campaign as of Saturday of last week amounted to more than \$900. Last year at the corresponding period of the drive, the total stood at between \$500 and \$600.

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

All producers who have a record showing that they were approved for one or more practices, either guaranteed or conditional, and have completed carrying out the practices, must report it to the county office before December 31.

Practices carried out but not reported to the county office by that date will not qualify for payment, it was stated.

Christmas Night Services At St. Luke's Announced

There will be a service of Evening Prayer with sermon at St. Luke's Church, Roper, Friday, December 25th, Christmas night, at 7:30. The priest in charge, The Rev. Edward M. Spruill, will deliver a Christmas message and there will be special music by the choir.

The public is cordially invited to worship with the Roper Episcopalians.

Beacon Office Closed Until December 29th

The Roanoke Beacon office will be closed after Monday, December 21, through Monday, December 28, reopening for business Tuesday morning, December 29. 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.

This issue of the Beacon was

Many Employees Of Pulp Company Get Service Pins

Thirty-Three Men With Long Service Honored at 'Old-Timers' Dinner' Here Monday Night

Recognition for loyal service was given to a group of employees who have been with North Carolina Pulp Company continuously over a long period of years at the annual "Old-Timers' Dinner" given by the company Monday night of this week at Plymouth Country Club.

Serving as toastmaster for the occasion was Manager J. A. Auchter and presentation of awards was by H. M. Kieckhefer.

The honored guests—men who have just completed 25 years' service with the company—numbered five:

Hencil J. Matheny, Maurice G. Dotson, Otis P. Tyree, F. M. Bowlers and Fred Keyes.

Those with 25 or more years' service include P. B. Sereno, J. W. McDaniels, W. R. McCombs, Joseph D. Cruickshank, sr., Roscoe Frymier, G. W. Detamore, Curt Jett, Artie Jackson, Henry Peyton, Edwin H. Lloyd, J. P. Ragland, Samuel J. Nash, Ray Brown, Okey Steele, W. V. Holbrook, Ed F. Bagans, Howard McClure, Meldon Jack, Earl McCoy, Oscar L. Shaver, Roscoe A. Dorsey, Virgil Keener, C. G. Windon, D. C. Cunningham, H. B. Campbell, C. F. Gibson, James A. Holbrook and J. W. St.

Cocktail hour, from 6:30 to 7:30 preceded the dinner. Menu for the three-course dinner included fruit cocktail, escalloped oysters, roast turkey, old fashioned dressing, giblet gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli, cauliflower, cranberry sauce, hot rolls and butter, apple pie and coffee.

At the completion of the meal an entertainment hour was enjoyed with those present playing bingo. The company contributed many valuable prizes.

Each of the honored guests received a gold watch in addition to the pin in recognition of 25 years' service with the company.

Announce Closing Date for Reporting Soil Practices

The attention of all farmers of the county is called to the closing date for performing and reporting practices under the 1953 ACP program by county ASC office manager Miriam Ausbon. Miss Ausbon said the closing date is December 31.

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Local Holiday Schedules Will Be Longer This Year

'NOW BE A GOOD BOY AND AT CHRISTMAS ...'



It looks like Santa's getting young Bobby Chesson all straightened out for a big Christmas and Bobby's obviously paying rapt attention. Bobby is the nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Chesson, of Mackeys.

Most Business Houses Closing for Two Days; Schools Will Not Reopen Until Monday, January 4

Varied Christmas holiday schedules will prevail among Plymouth's industrial and business establishments this year, with the closing ranging all the way to 12 days, the 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 Thursday night until Monday morning at the usual opening hour, giving employees and owners two work days off.

Local establishments which will observe Christmas Day only and reopen for business Saturday 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 banks will reopen for business Saturday.

The North Carolina Pulp Company has announced that its plant will shut down Thursday morning at 8 o'clock and resume operations the following Thursday morning at 8 o'clock. However, the maintenance crew will start back sooner, it was said.

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

The True Temper Corporation will close down for the holidays Thursday and will reopen Monday, December 28. A like closing will be observed for New Year's, Morris S. Brobst, manager, said. Offices at the courthouse and at the Agriculture Building will close Wednesday and reopen the following Monday, county offices observing the same holiday as state and federal employees.

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

Program Is Set At Country Club For Yule Season

Events Include Children's Party Tuesday; Christmas 'Open House,' New Year's Eve Dance

Thos. F. Hopkins, chairman of the Entertainment committee of Plymouth Country Club, has called attention of club members to the program of activities arranged by the committee and the board of directors for the present holiday season.

Mr. Hopkins said the directors and committee spared no pains to arrange a program designed to make the holiday season at the club a memorable occasion for all.

The annual Children's Christmas Party has been set for Tuesday of this week at 3:30 p. m. Favors and refreshments will be served and club member parents are requested to bring their children out for an enjoyable affair.

"Open House" will be held Christmas Day from 4 to 6 o'clock in the afternoon and it is hoped that all members will make an effort to visit the club at that time, it was said.

To cap the gala activities of the Yule season will be the annual New Year's Eve dance. This is an event which is looked forward to keenly by many persons each year and it always turns out to be a big success. This year should be no exception with everything reported in readiness for a most enjoyable occasion. Music for the dance will be furnished by Bill Gravely and his orchestra.

Local Group at Work To Secure Auction Market

Designed To Fill Need of Farmers in Face of Declining Acreage Allotments for Cash Crops

Plans are underway for the establishment here of a licensed auction market for farmers' produce.

A group of Plymouth men has announced the first organizational meeting for Wednesday, January 13, at 7:30 p. m. in the courtroom of the courthouse here.

It is expected that the style of the new firm will be decided at that time and definite plans formulated for setting up the market here, closely patterned after the one in operation at Clinton, in Sampson County.

The market is designed to fill a definite need here. A spokesman for the group has pointed out that with the steadily declining acreage allotments to cash crops the farmers of the county must turn to some other source for income. It is believed that with a local market assured, many farmers will begin to devote acreage to such crops as snap beans, cucumbers, squash, tomatoes and peppers.

Cucumbers and peppers have been contracted for in the county on a limited scale now for some time with deliveries being made to the C. C. Lang & Son pickle plant here. Some tomatoes and beans have also been grown in the county in the past on a small scale.

The auction market would operate on a basis of five per cent commission and would offer the produce for sale "farmer's pack" or just as the farmer delivered it.

The services of government inspectors to establish grades on produce would be available free of charge to farmers.

Sales would be made on competitive bidding to the highest bidder subject to acceptance by the grower. Buyers representing dealers in fresh produce, canneries possibly, large chain store buyers and buyers for government orders would make competitive bids.

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

This issue of the Beacon was printed and mailed ahead of the regular schedule in order to make the week of closing possible. The following issue of the paper may possibly be a bit late but every effort will be made to get it printed and in the post office sometime Thursday of that week.

Dragline Stops; Ground Too Hard

It has really been cold lately! The Mooney brothers from Fairfield, who have been operating a dragline on the farm of Hubert Davenport in Scuppernon Township, came over for work Thursday morning of last week only to find that the ground was frozen so hard that they could not get the dragline in the earth.

They didn't wait around for it to thaw, either. With low temperatures and a bitter cold wind, they decided to return home and forget the job until after the Christmas holidays.

Tax Supervisors, 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 Skinnerville, 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, Skinnerville Township.

No Bookmobile Schedule During Christmas Week

Patrons of the Washington County Bookmobile are again reminded that there will be no schedule for this week because of the Christmas holidays. Also, the library at the courthouse and the colored branches will be closed after Wednesday in observance of the Christmas holidays and will reopen Monday, December 28.

Next week, the bookmobile will make the same run which was postponed because of the