

WORK PROGRESSING ON NEW HOME FOR PLYMOUTH FIRE DEPARTMENT



Plymouth volunteer firemen didn't get into their new home by the first of the year, as they hoped, but work is going forward and at least it won't be as long as it has been. The new building will have room for three pieces of equipment at the front, with a club room, showers, lockers and a work room for the firemen at the back. It is 40 by 90 feet overall and is built of concrete blocks with a brick veneer. Robert L. Tetterton is contractor for labor on the building, with the town furnishing all materials. Jack Liverman is the supervising architect.—Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

Dr. Robert L. Mohn, who was called into the Armed Forces in January of 1952, recently returned to Plymouth and has reopened his offices in the Plymouth Clinic for the practice of dentistry.

Manning Motor Company here recently received a plaque certifying that the firm has qualified as a "Four-Letter Dealer." The citation was for "finances—sound, management—efficient, spirit—competitive, facilities—completely modern." Assistant Manager Ford Worthy explained that the award is "like being on the honor roll." W. F. Spörleider, head of the business management department of the Virginia District, Ford Motor Company, Richmond, Va., came to Plymouth to personally make the presentation.

New Year's Day Jimmy Kitchens and helpers were extremely busy making deliveries of deep-freeze units, television sets and one thing or another and so Jimmy was not around his place of business long at the time. However, a few local football fans gathered in the Television Center and just helped themselves to not one but two of the television sets on display to view one of the bowl games of the day. Jimmy later pressed a few of the heftier ones into service to help load some of the heavy hardware being moved out to buyers. Reciprocity was the order of the day.

Wednesday morning at the Mayflower Maurice Smith was marveling at the wonderful transportation of the twentieth century. His longtime friend from Milwaukee, Wisconsin—Marion Goodson—spent six days visiting Plymouth and enjoying the good hunting hereabouts. Maurice said they went goose-hunting in the Pungo section early Tuesday, got three geese, took Marion to Norfolk, Va., where he employed in time to get home to Milwaukee for supper that evening.

Power of suggestion? One of the attorneys in the Lucas trial Tuesday asked a witness to describe how the body of the victim was lying. In answering, the witness used the word "laying," and after that the attorney repeatedly resorted to the same term.

Last Rites Held For Mrs. Phelps

Last rites for Mrs. Sarah Jane Phelps, 78, of Roper, were held at Holly Neck Church Sunday afternoon at 3 p. m. by the Rev. R. L. Gardiner. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Phelps died at her home at 11 a. m. last Friday after a lingering illness. She had been in declining health for about a year and sick in bed for six months.

She was a native of Martin County, born February 16, 1875, to the late J. B. Jones and Sarah Davis Jones, of that county. She came here from Martin County 55 years ago. She was married at Jamesville December 17, 1899, to Jim Phelps, of Roper, who survives. Mrs. Phelps was a member of Zion's Chapel Church of Christ, near Roper.

Whiskey Sales Figures For December Released

Legal sales of whiskey in Washington County in December amounted to \$22,323.05, according to figures for the two county retail outlets released by Manager W. C. Styons, of the Plymouth ABC Store.

Old School Property Is Sold Here Monday

Results of the public auction sale of obsolete county school property held here Saturday noon were announced this week by County Superintendent of Schools R. F. Lowry, acting for the county board of education.

Tax Listing Is Off To Slow Start in County

February Draft Call for 3 Men

Selective Service Board No. 95 here has received a call to send three registrants for induction on Wednesday, February 24. Mrs. Lorraine Hunter, board clerk, reported this week.

Bird Sanctuary Is Established Here By Town Council

Proclamation Issued Monday by Mayor; Makes Killing Any Birds in City Limits Unlawful

The Town of Plymouth became a bird sanctuary under the terms of a proclamation issued Monday night by Mayor A. J. Riddle, with all members of the city council also signing the proclamation to give their endorsement to its provisions.

Hearings Set in Case of Millers

Hearings in the case involving 17 peanut millers in North Carolina and Virginia (including Farmers Cotton & Peanut Company here), charged by the Federal Trade Commission with combining unlawfully to keep down prices paid to peanut growers, have been set for January 17 in Suffolk, Va., the commission has announced in Washington.

County Director Urges Volunteer Help for Drive

Thomas F. Hopkins To Head March of Dimes in County For 1954; Need Greater Than Ever

Thomas F. Hopkins, of Plymouth, director of the annual March of Dimes in Washington County, says that "Two for One" will be the slogan of the drive to enlist volunteer workers for the 1954 campaign being carried on here this month.

Only 100 Persons List in Plymouth Township Up To Tuesday, List Taker Reports

The annual job of listing property for taxes, begun in Washington County last Saturday, is off to a rather slow start, according to present indications.

Harry D. McNair Buried Yesterday

Funeral services were conducted from Ludford Memorial Baptist Church here Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock for Harry D. McNair, 39, of Plymouth. Mr. McNair died at his home here at 8:30 p. m. Monday. He had not been ill.

Residents Urged Pay Taxes Early

Plymouth residents have been reminded by P. W. Brown, local police chief, that their town taxes are now payable at par and will be until February 1, after which 1 per cent interest will be charged to delinquent payers.

Action on Minor Matters Monday By Commissioners

County Board in Regular Monthly Session Hears Routine Reports, Road Petition; Approves Market

Regular monthly session here Monday the board of county commissioners heard routine reports and took action in a few matters of a minor nature.

The meeting convened at 11 a. m. in the commissioners' room at the courthouse with all board members present as follows: Frank L. Brinkley, chairman, and A. R. Latham, of Plymouth; J. C. Knowles, of Roper; H. L. Davenport, of Skinnerville; and H. W. Pritchett, of Creswell.

The board decided that certain county-owned lands in the Weona section would be sold at public auction February 8 and notice is being published to that effect.

W. M. Darden, of Plymouth, appeared before the board regarding a movement to organize a public auction market for vegetables in this county and asked the moral support of the board.

Mr. Darden suggested that perhaps 200 acres of cucumbers, 400 acres of snap beans, 50 acres of squash, 200 acres of tomatoes, peppers, etc., would be required to establish the market here.

The board members stated that the idea sounded good and they endorsed the program and voted to take a half-page ad in the local newspaper to assist in bringing the matter before the farmers.

Routine monthly reports of work done in December were submitted by W. H. Pruden, county agent, and Mrs. Frances M. Darden, home agent.

County Tax Collector E. J. Sprull reported that \$19,197.66 had been collected by his department during December.

A petition was received and accepted to be forwarded to the highway commission to black top a road running from the Beasley Road at Highway 64 up Holly Neck Road 2.5 miles through Middle Neck Road 2.1 miles and back to the highway.

It was brought to the attention of the board that the road gets slick and rough in bad weather and that the county school buses have a hard time travelling the road. The clerk was requested to solicit the support of the highway chairman in having the road fixed.

He was a native and lifelong resident of the county, born June 21, 1914, the son of Mrs. Jessie D. McNair and the late Carl W. McNair, of this place. He was engaged in farming. Mr. McNair was married at Windsor September 28, 1934, to Miss Laura Bowen, of Plymouth, who survives. He was a member of Ludford Memorial Church.

Surviving besides the widow are two daughters, Barbara and Louise McNair of the home; his mother; and a sister, Mrs. Johnnie C. Pridgen, of Plymouth.

Services were conducted by his pastor, the Rev. P. B. Nickens, assisted by the Rev. E. M. Sprull, local Episcopal rector, and burial was in Windley Cemetery.

First Baby Born at Local Hospital This Year Girl

First baby of the new year at the Washington County Hospital was a girl born at 1:30 p. m. January 1, hospital records show.

The little lady is Sheila Denise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William David Scott, of Jamesville. Both baby and mother are reported to be doing fine.

Mr. Brown has urged all citizens to appear at the office of the town clerk and pay their taxes as soon as possible and thus avoid the interest.

Few Cases Tried In Superior Court

Mary Adams, Negress of Plymouth, Acquitted of Attempted Arson Charge; Murder Case Being Tried

The case went to the jury shortly before five o'clock Wednesday afternoon in the Lucas murder trial and the jury returned a verdict of not guilty less than two hours later. The Kulow manslaughter case is expected to begin this morning.

Held up by lengthy trials at the outset, progress was rather slow in Superior Court here this week. Judge Chester Morris, of Currituck, is on the bench. Evidence was still being offered Wednesday in the trial of Vernon Lucas, Mackeys Negro, charged with the fatal shooting of Henry Joe Louis Wilkins, jr., another young Mackeys Negro on the night of December 12, 1953.

The trial was begun about midday Tuesday, after completion of the case against Mary Adams, Plymouth Negress, charged with attempted arson. Defense counsel in the murder trial are W. L. Whitley, of Plymouth, and J. A. Pritchett, Windsor attorney. The Plymouth law firm of Bailey and Bailey is aiding Solicitor Elbert Peel in the prosecution.

Lucas was being tried for second degree murder or manslaughter. Lucas is alleged to have fired on Wilkins from the front porch of his home and Wilkins was found lying on his back between the house and the road, according to testimony of Sheriff J. K. Reid and State Highway Patrolman Carl Gilchrist, the investigating officers. The slaying was said to have been the result of a grudge of some months' standing.

The trial of Mary Adams was begun Monday and the case went to the jury at about 11 o'clock Tuesday morning, following argument of counsel and the judge's charge to the jury. The jury was cut only a short while before returning a verdict of not guilty.

The preliminary hearing was held before Judge W. Ronald Gaylord here Tuesday, November 10, and probable cause was found, with the defendant being bound over to the higher court under \$500 bond.

The prosecuting witness, Rosie Lee Barnes, testified that a hole was burned in the floor of a bedroom in her house here, the fire being smothered out by a mattress which was folded on the floor under the bed. Testimony was offered that the Adams woman was seen in a crouching position outside the house shortly before the fire was discovered and that she had been heard to make threats about "burning every house on the block."

The case aroused considerable interest among the local colored citizens, as has the murder trial which was in progress Wednesday.

Representatives of three Still-aces business firms asked that the town pay a portion of the cost of surfacing in front of their places of business. The three firms, Waters & Kelly Grocery, W. J. Woolard Furniture Co., and the Etheridge Company, had spent a total of \$1,302.32 for black topping between East Main Street and their stores. Part of the area surfaced was the street right of way, and members of the council agreed to pay one-half the cost of surfacing the area not actually owned by the three firms.

A contract, was entered into with H. O. Lovic for installation of electric wiring in the new fire

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Lions Club in Supper Meeting Here Tonight

The Plymouth Lions Club will hold its regular meeting Thursday night of this week at the Mayflower Restaurant, President Hubert M. Ange announces. Time is 7 o'clock.

Not To Contract For Cukes Here

C. W. Dinkins, manager of the C. C. Lang & Son plant here, stated yesterday afternoon that he had just learned that the concern would not do any contracting for cucumbers or peppers in this area during 1954.

Mr. Dinkins stated that he was already in touch with several concerns that deal in cucumbers and that he hoped to have some definite word by next week.

Judge Cites Importance of Jurors

"No complaint can be hurled at our forefathers for the heritage they left us," Judge Chester Morris remarked during the course of his charge to the grand jury at the opening of Superior Court here Monday. "The question is ringing in my mind, Will the generation that follows us be able to say as much?"

The jurist emphasized the important duty of every member of the grand jury in the matter of

Program Released For Farm Classes Starting Tuesday

County Agent Issues Invitation To Attend Meetings Set for Agriculture Building Here

"The application of recent agricultural research results here would mean a vast improvement in the income of individual farmers and would bring a great contribution to the economy of the entire county," Farm Agent W. H. Pruden declared today.

Pruden said this is the thinking back of a three-day series of classes designed to acquaint Washington County farmers with the practical application of recent research results affecting major farming enterprises that could be conducted in this county.

The classes will be held in the auditorium of the Agriculture Building here Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week. Specialists from the State College Agricultural Extension Service will bring the latest recommendations in many different phases of agriculture. Farmers may attend any of these classes, but Pruden is urging that they attend the complete series. He termed the meetings, "The most important schedule for the county in a long, long while."

"Maybe you aren't interested in a particular enterprise that will be discussed, but it may be that this enterprise can fit in very profitably with your farming program," the agent declared.

Among the recent research results to be presented will be a system of growing out hogs on Ladino clover, corn, water and minerals at a cost of only \$11 per hundredweight. "Most of us have been spending about 50 per cent more than that," according to Pruden.

New fertilization recommendations and new, inexpensive sources of nitrogen will be brought to the attention of those who avail themselves of the opportunity to attend the classes. Pruden stated that the average farmer now uses only 40 pounds of nitrogen per acre on corn, but research revealed that corn profits increase with every pound of fertilizer up to 100 pounds.

Vegetable farmers who attend the classes will learn of a new cucumber and a new snap bean variety that are destined to replace older varieties in this area. The cucumber is resistant to downy mildew, is a higher yielder, and its good, dark color gives it top market appeal. The new bean has commanded a premium on the market since its introduction.

Letters have been sent out to county farmers inviting them to the series of meetings and other interested persons are also urged to attend.

"I would like to call your attention to the Tuesday morning session," Pruden said, "as a new organization in town plans to

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Play To Be Given At Roper School

The play, "What Would Jesus Do," given last Sunday night at Zion's Chapel Church of Christ, met with such popular approval that it will be presented again, this time at Roper High School auditorium next Monday night, for benefit of the school's activity bus fund. Curtain time is 7:30, with an admission charge of 40 cents for adults and 25 cents for children, all proceeds going to the bus fund. The public is urged to attend.

The play is a drama of Christian action centered about the life and work of a modern-day metropolitan church. The minister becomes discouraged trying to please the members of his church by preaching what they would like to hear, excusing their sins, and so decides to do the will of Christ as near as he can find it, regardless of loss to personal popularity. As he says, "it is a glorious madness," and all kinds of things happen to insure "never a dull moment." Truth triumphs, though tragedy strikes, but the crusade for Christian action goes on!

It was pointed out that the new bookmobile, recently put into service in the county, is higher and cannot be accommodated by the garage without lowering the floor.

The sale of certain outdoor privies at the old J. J. Clemmons School at Roper to E. L. Owens, of Plymouth, was approved.

The meeting convened at 10 a. m. in the offices of the county superintendent of schools at the courthouse. All members of the board were present, including L. E. Hassell, of Roper, chairman; J. W. Norman and Mrs. K. S. Trowbridge, Plymouth; P. B. Belanga, Creswell; and J. Whitford Swain, Roper.

The judge pointed to statistics showing an increase in crime in Eastern North Carolina which he called "the best part of North Carolina—and I've been all over the state." He deplored the increase in juvenile delinquency and laid the responsibility in the laps of the older generation.

W. W. Mizell, of Roper, was named foreman of the grand jury.

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Board Decides on Few Matters Here

The Washington County Board of Education, in regular monthly session here Monday, approved the appointment of Mrs. Shirley Pinner, of Plymouth, as Property and Cost clerk in the office of the superintendent of schools.

The position is a part-time one and became open when the cost and inventory system in transportation recently went into effect in the office. Mrs. Pinner has begun her duties which consist chiefly of checking parts in and out and keeping cost records on various school buses.

The board agreed that some change be made in the garage which formerly was used to house the old bookmobile here, if practicable, and if not, that a new garage be constructed to house the new, larger bookmobile, provided the county library board agrees to bear the expense.

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