

Listing Here Heavier Than Preceding Year

The period for listing property for taxes in this county ended Monday but no reports were available late yesterday for the various townships except for Plymouth.

Clarence L. Blount, Plymouth Township list taker, reported that 1,750 persons had listed with him during the month, as compared with 1,670 who listed in the township last year.

County Home Agent Assistant Requested

SATISFIED CUSTOMER



Few people in Washington County will fail to recognize this physiognomy, but for the benefit of the near-sighted it's Dr. Claudius McGowan, of Plymouth. He had just topped off Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Spruill's hog-killing dinner with several pieces of pie and three kinds of cake when this photo was made, and it's doubtful that he will ever be in better humor. Doc's hair, incidentally, is not usually that untidy. Fact is, the picture was made outdoors with a near-gale blowing. Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

90 per cent of the farm crop reports were also in. He stated that the valuation was off considerably in the township over the preceding year, due principally to a sharp decrease in valuation of automobiles and other motor vehicles. He declined to estimate the percentage of decline in valuations.

W. A. Roebuck, list taker for the Town of Plymouth, said about 1,300 person listed property for taxes here.

Board Answers Request and Promises To Consider Several Other Matters Taken Up Monday

A committee of county women, with Mrs. Roy Stillman, of Roper, as spokesman, appeared before the board of county commissioners at the regular monthly session here Monday and requested that the board take under consideration the appointment of an assistant to Mrs. Frances M. Darden, home agent, in the next budget.

The board assured the group that the matter would be given due consideration but that no promises could be made that the item would be placed in this year's budget since the results of the present revaluation program could not be foreseen at this time.

Several other matters of a routine nature were taken up at the meeting which was attended by Chairman Frank L. Brinkley, and Commissioner A. R. Latham, of Plymouth; J. C. Knowles, Roper; H. W. Pritchett, Creswell; and Hubert L. Davenport, Skippersville.

The board voted to ask that the county welfare department make an immediate investigation of the case of Mrs. Mary Lilley and the commissioners agreed to be governed in their action entirely by the report.

W. M. Darden, a representative of the local produce auction market, reported that 18 counties in the area had been visited and civic clubs, farmers and county agents visited with much encouragement being gained from reactions in the area.

Board Clerk J. Robert Campbell was instructed to write to Highway Chairman J. Emmett Winslow and call attention to the condition of the Millpond Road, suggesting that attention be given to hard-surfacing of the road as soon as possible.

The clerk was also directed to call the highway chairman's attention to a previous petition to improve the Backwoods Road near Roper.

Three new road petitions were also approved to be forwarded to the highway department as follows:

- 1. Road from Highway 64 about 100 yards from Walter S. Knowles farm leading off the highway to Greenville Nixon's residence.
- 2. Road running north of Highway 64.

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'No Slack' in Tag Business

There was no such thing as slack business Monday at the local branch office of the Carolina Motor Club as droves of motorists came in to get state license plates for motor vehicles before the deadline.

The number of plates sold here swelled to 2,959. Sales were broken down into categories as follows: automobiles, 2,142; motorcycle, 4; private trucks, 520; farm trucks, 85; Class Z trailers, 170; Class C trailers, 38.

Church's \$75,000 Drive Is Success

Around 300 persons attended a "Loyalty Dinner" at the high school lunchroom here last Wednesday night, in connection with the financial canvass being conducted by Plymouth Christian Church.

An excellent fried chicken dinner was served the group by Harold Whitley.

E. H. Liverman opened the meeting with brief remarks and then turned it over to the Rev. C. N. Barnette, who acted as master of ceremonies. Brief speeches

were made by Mr. Barnette, Mr. Liverman, H. E. Newland, Robert E. Bowen and Wesley Hardison.

The canvass, under direction of the Wells organization, had a goal of \$75,000, which is the first step toward a new \$160,000 brick church plant to be erected here on Main Street on a lot 150 by 400 feet and extending from Main to Third Street.

Mr. Barnette stated late Wednesday that the goal had already been pledged on a pledge basis of 150 weeks. The final report on the

Report Interest Running High in Produce Market

Substantial Acreage Assured Throughout Area To Be Served By New Enterprise, Owners Say

It now appears certain that a substantial acreage of truck crops will be grown in the 18-county area to be served by the Plymouth Produce Auction Market, W. M. Darden, W. T. Freeman and James H. Ward—owners and operators, announced this week.

This conclusion is based on the fact that many plant beds for peppers have already been completed and seed dealers all over the area report brisk sales in both pepper and tomato seeds, it was explained. Many orders for other truck crop seed have been placed. Also, the certainty of a large production has been further confirmed through personal contact with growers and through farm organizations.

"The interest shown in the production of truck crops for the new market has exceeded our expectations," Mr. Freeman stated.

Considerable spadework has been done throughout the counties to be served by the new enterprise and the owners report that enthusiasm for the market is running high in every county, and they have visited all of the 18 counties at least once—some of them twice.

County agents and other agricultural workers are scheduling meetings throughout the area to

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Beaufort Lawyer First To Announce For State Senate

L. H. Ross To Seek One of Two Places; D. Victor Meekins, of Manteo, Is Possible Candidate

It was reported here last week that L. H. Ross, of Washington, lawyer, had announced for the state senate from the second district. The district is composed of seven counties, Washington, Martin, Beaufort, Dare, Tyrrell, Hyde and Pamlico, and has two senators.

The district was represented at the last session of the General Assembly by Hugh G. Horton, of Williamson, and Malcolm C. Paul, of Washington. It is understood that neither will be a candidate again this year.

In a conversation with a friend here this week, D. Victor Meekins, former sheriff and county commissioner of Dare County, said he would be interested in filing for senator, provided Washington, Tyrrell or Hyde Counties offered no serious candidate for the office. Pamlico was the last of the smaller counties to be represented in the senate, Sam Campen having served two terms, in 1949 and 1951.

Dare has had a senator since Washington, Tyrrell and Hyde Counties, and Mr. Meekins said he would not consider running against a candidate from any of them. He said he was a strong believer in the rotation plan; but that if none of the other three counties offered a candidate, he definitely was interested. He said he had received some assurances of strong support and that he would make a statement about the matter in the near future.

Under the terms of an unofficial agreement existing in the second district, Martin or Beaufort provides one senator and the five smaller counties provide the other in rotation. It is also the custom for each senator to serve two years. However, the custom has been violated several times; and at the last session of the assembly none of the five smaller counties in the district had representation.

County Agent W. H. Pruden stated yesterday that over 50 percent of the tobacco beds have been prepared in the county. "Farmers are getting their beds in every day, now," the agent said.

"At least 10 per cent of the beds methyl bromide for the control of weeds, nematodes, etc.," Mr. Pruden declared.

Work on the plant beds was greatly hampered by wet weather this year.

Plymouth Scouts Observe National Boy Scout Week

Plymouth scouts will observe National Boy Scout Week February 7-13, Scoutmaster Carl Bailey, jr., has announced.

Sunday morning the scouts will attend services at Plymouth Christian Church in a body. Tuesday night there will be a father-son get-together at the Scout Hut, with the regular meeting to follow.

GREENVILLE STUDENTS GO THROUGH PULP MILL HERE LAST WEEK



Thirty-three eighth-grade students from the Training School at East Carolina College, Greenville, are pictured here in front of the personnel office building at the North Carolina Pulp Company last Thursday, following a conducted tour of the plant. The group, traveling in a large bus, was under the supervision of Miss Elizabeth Hyman, teacher, of Greenville, and Miss Helen Walters, of Portsmouth, Va., a student teacher. In addition to following operations of the big mill from log to finished paper, the students received samples of the various pulp and paper products produced here. Arrangements for the tour were made through the office of L. J. Darby, industrial relations director.—Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

Farm Bureau Unit Hears Ratchford On Price Support

Speaker Discusses Reasons For Support Program, Alternatives; Charter To Incorporate Formed

About 30 persons attended the meeting at the Agriculture Building Monday night of the Washington County Farm Bureau and heard Dr. C. Brice Ratchford, in charge of extension farm management and marketing at State College, speak on price supports.

The meeting was presided over by A. Morris, of Creswell, head of the county unit of the Farm Bureau. Dr. Ratchford was introduced by County Agent W. H. Pruden.

The speaker stated the functions of a price support program as (1) bringing supply in line with demand at reasonable prices and (2) aiding the farmer to get a fair share of the national income.

Dr. Ratchford then advanced five reasons for having a price support program. He cited the characteristics of demand for agricultural commodities, the uncertainty and unresponsiveness to price changes in the short-run, the uncertainties of exports, the possible wide fluctuations in free farm prices, and the importance of food and fiber to the public.

Eight goals for a price support program were then listed, namely: to provide reasonable price stability and help provide overall economic stability, to maintain supply in line with demand with a reasonable range of price fluctuations, to encourage efficient production and marketing, to provide reasonable incomes for those in agriculture, to be consistent with the accepted goal of maximum personal freedom, to be reasonable as to cost, to be politically acceptable and administratively feasible, and to promote conservation.

Next, an appraisal of alternatives was given.

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More Than Half of Tobacco Plant Beds Now Prepared

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A number of the scouts also plan to camp out near the Hut over the week-end, the scoutmaster stated.

Ask Added Facilities For Plymouth School

Group of Local Citizens Stresses Need for New Auditorium, Gymnasium At Board Meeting

A request for additional school facilities at Plymouth was voiced by a small delegation of local citizens appearing before the county board of education at the regular monthly meeting here Monday.

W. H. Booker, A. L. Owens, C. W. Dinkins, Lewis Price and Nyal Womble asked that the board give consideration to the building of additional school plant facilities at Plymouth, stressing the need for a new auditorium and gymnasium at the high school.

The group informally discussed the need for funds from tax sources to supplement the present educational program here. It was pointed out that the present method of raising money with which to provide supplements for music and physical education programs at the school is haphazard and entirely unreliable.

It was pointed out that enrollment in the local schools had almost doubled in the past 15 years and that practically all the buildings added here were to take care of the increased number of pupils rather than to provide additional facilities. Also cited was the fact that considerably more than \$35,000 had been raised in the past few years by contributions to equip the home economics department, lunch room, and to provide for the athletics and band programs carried on here.

Mr. Booker, who acted as spokesman for the delegation, labeled a supplementary school tax for Plymouth as the desirable solution. Board Chairman L. E. Hassell and board members stated the belief that a county-wide supplemental tax would be more desirable than for a school district tax alone.

Carl L. Bailey, sr., attorney for the board, expressed his opinion that to be legal the tax would have to be levied on property on a countywide basis since there is an overlapping of districts, with Plymouth colored students in high school going to Roper.

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Offices Begin Half-Holidays

Offices at the county courthouse here will begin closing at noon Wednesday on February 10th and continue each Wednesday afternoon through the month of September. The offices will remain open on Saturdays until noon, as usual.

At the commissioners' meeting here Monday it was agreed for the offices to begin the Wednesday afternoon closings next week, since stores and other business houses here are taking the half-holiday each week.

Demonstration At Farm Near Here

County Agent W. H. Pruden stated yesterday that he was expecting a good number of farmers to attend the pepper and tomato seed bed demonstration which will be held Thursday afternoon of this week.

The demonstration will be conducted on the farm of A. J. Riddle two miles east of Plymouth on Highway 64. Time of the demonstration is 2 o'clock. The beds are located directly behind the home of Elvin Adams, a tenant on the farm.

It is expected that there will be much interest in pepper and tomato crops in the county this year because of the new produce auction market to be established here in May.

The county agent pointed out that pepper and tomato beds should be seeded by February 15. It is important to have good-sized plants early in order to catch the early market when the prices are strongest, Pruden said. He stated that prices of peppers per bushel dropped from an early high of \$4 last season to \$1.

Al Banadyga, extension horticulture specialist from State College, Raleigh, will be in charge of the demonstration which will show how to make the forms, prepare and seed the bed, etc.

Chairman Praises School's Efforts For Polio Drive

Check for \$1,099.36 Turned In to County 1954 March Of Dimes; \$2,500 Now in Hand

County March of Dimes Chairman Thos. F. Hopkins, of Plymouth, reported Wednesday that \$2,500 has been raised in the 1954 campaign to date.

Over \$3,500 is being sought in the drive this year for funds with which to fight polio.

Mr. Hopkins had strong praise for Principal J. S. Fleming, of Plymouth High School, Mrs. Dick Norman and others of the school faculty, and the students for their outstanding work in raising \$1,099.36 for the fund.

The county chairman stated that from information he has gathered at various district and state meetings of March of Dimes forces he is led to believe that Plymouth schools "raised more money per pupil than any other in the state."

The schools have repeatedly made a good record in the March of Dimes campaign year after year.

Mr. Hopkins also stated that a very favorable report has been received from Mrs. Gladys Davenport, chairman of the drive at Creswell. A full breakdown will be furnished later, it was said.

The county chairman expressed his confidence that the figures would be pushed over the \$3,000 mark within the next few days.

Meanwhile, the 20 princesses who are competing for the title, "Washington County March of Dimes Queen, 1954," were reported busy soliciting funds and selling advance tickets for the annual March of Dimes ball to be held at the Veterans Club here Saturday night of this week.

Music for the dance will be furnished by Bill Graveley and his orchestra from Washington. The dance will be held from 9 to 12 and the queen will be crowned at appropriate ceremonies during intermission.

A capacity crowd is expected for the affair.

Farmers Urged To Send in Cards on Vegetable Crops

The county agent's office mailed out cards Tuesday to farmers in the county listing various vegetable crops and asking that they check the crops they intend to grow for market this season.

Farmers who check and return cards to the county agent's office will be placed on the mailing list to receive valuable information on growing and marketing the vegetables, County Agent W. H. Pruden stated.

It is requested that interested farmers get these cards in to the county office as soon as possible.

Council of Church Women Meet Here This Afternoon

The Plymouth Council of Church Women, made up of women of the Presbyterian, Episcopal, Christian, Baptist and Methodist Churches, will hold an organizational meeting at the Episcopal Parish House on Madison Street Thursday afternoon of this week.

The announcement was made by Mrs. K. S. Trowbridge, president of the council. Time of the meeting is 3 o'clock.

County's Quota For Dinner \$150

Carl L. Bailey, chairman of the Washington County Democratic executive committee, stated Wednesday that the county's \$150 quota for the annual Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner had not been raised, although a small amount was in hand.

Mr. Bailey said he expected no trouble raising the county's quota, however. In return for its money, the county will get three seats at the affair which is scheduled to be held in the Sir Walter Hotel ballroom Saturday night of next week.

Senator Spesserd Holland, of Florida, will be the featured speaker at the gathering of party faithful, but the big news will be the fact that state politics expected to feature a battle for the U. S. Senatorial nomination will be in full swing by that time.

Some counties have already turned in their quotas to Dinner Chairman John D. Larkins, jr. The party is seeking a total of \$29,000 from the dinner.

Mr. Bailey said he had no idea at this time who would represent

FIRE DESTROYS HOUSE NEAR HERE LAST WEEK



Plymouth firemen were unable to do much about this fire, which destroyed the home of Annie Johnson, colored, on the Mackeys Road near here last week. An overheated oil heater caused the blaze, which completely destroyed the house and its contents. There was no insurance.—Polaroid 1-Minute photo by Henry Cannon.