

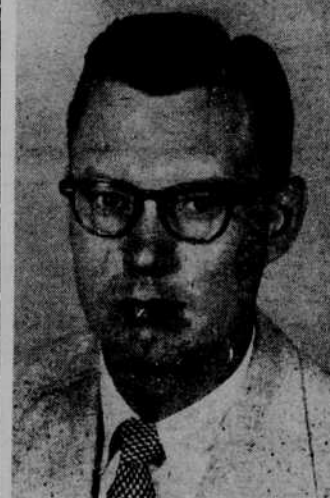
Interest Grows in Auction Market

During the past two weeks the operators of the Plymouth Produce Auction Market have attended 22 meetings in the 18-county area to be served by the market and report good interest shown.

The operators, W. M. Darden, James H. Ward and W. T. Freeman, say that 1,140 growers have been contacted and that many of these have indicated their intention to plant vegetable crops for the market. Planting of pepper and tomato seed is now underway all over the territory.

Vaccination of Dogs To Begin Next Week

JOINS SALES FORCE



Jack W. House, Jr., joined the sales force of House Chevrolet Company here this week. Mr. House is a graduate of Plymouth High School and of the University of North Carolina. Since getting his degree, he has been employed by Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, first as salesman and later as credit manager for several Goodyear stores in South Carolina. In September, 1953, Mr. House married Miss Doris M. Gerlach of Florence, S. C. Mr. and Mrs. House are living in Winsett Circle.

All kinds of vegetables will be sold at auction daily, all produce to be handled farmers' grade, farmers pack, with federal inspection service furnished.

Plans for building the auction block, unloading sheds, office and other necessary facilities have been made in accordance with the

recommendations and approval of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. Actual construction is to begin immediately, it was said.

Business men as well as farmers in the area are endorsing the new enterprise and are encouraging the production of more vegetable crops to support this market as a progressive step for agriculture in Eastern North Carolina.

Local Board Gets Calls for Men To Be Sent in March

Pre-Induction, Induction Calls for Five Men Received by Board Here, Clerk Announces

March pre-induction and induction calls have been received by Selective Service Board No. 95 here, Mrs. Lorraine Hunter, board clerk, reports.

The pre-induction call is for five men to be sent on Wednesday, March 3, while the induction call, also for five men, is slated for Tuesday, March 30.

Mrs. Hunter wishes to call attention of registrants to the change in bus schedules which means that buses on which registrants are sent for pre-induction or induction (except in case of special bus) leaves Plymouth at 9 a. m. Formerly, the time was 9:55 a. m.

The board clerk stated that registrants should report sufficiently early to allow her to make out meal tickets. "Registrants only inconvenience themselves when they come late," Mrs. Hunter remarked.

Those who report too late to catch the bus will be marked delinquent, it was said.

Services Tuesday For C. G. Spencer

Charlie G. Spencer, of near Roper, died at 7:45 p. m. Saturday in the Washington County Hospital, following an illness of one month. He was 87.

Mr. Spencer was the widower of the late Lenora Craft Spencer. A native of this county, he was born September 4, 1866, the son of the late Nathan and Matilda Reynolds Spencer.

Mr. Spencer spent his entire life in the county, was a retired farmer and at one time a member of the county board of commissioners.

He leaves two daughters, Mrs. R. Paul Parker, of Crockett, Texas, and Mrs. A. K. Spencer, of Columbia; a son, Marvin E. Spencer, of Roper; seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at Zion's Chapel Church of Christ, of which the deceased was a member, Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The pastor, the Rev. R. L. Gardiner, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Gilbert Davis, of Ayden. Burial was in the Craft Cemetery, near Roper.

Final Report on Seal Sale Drive

The final report on the Washington County Christmas Seal Sale for 1953 was released this week by Mrs. Lillian Shugar, of Plymouth, and shows a total of \$1,237.04 raised during the drive.

Receipts were broken down as follows: Sale of seals by mail, \$868.70; sale of bonds, \$130; Hampton School and Plymouth High School \$121.79; Creswell School, \$41.89; Roper High School, \$10.92; Washington County Union School, \$52.88; Creswell Colored School, \$4.51; Plymouth Colored School, \$6.35.

Mrs. Shugar expressed her deep appreciation to the people of the county for their splendid response.

Veterans Dance Set for Middle of Next Month

The local posts of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars will sponsor a dance at the Veterans Club here Saturday night, March 13, it was announced this week.

Music for the dance will be furnished by the Skis Combo orchestra from Elizabeth City. A television set will be given away as a door prize during intermission.

New Bank Office In Ahsoskie Will Open Next Week

President Archie McLean of Planters National Bank & Trust Co. Announces Opening February 25

Planters National Bank and Trust Company, of Rocky Mount, which opened a branch here sometime ago, is opening its new office in Ahsoskie Thursday of next week.

President Archie W. McLean, who made the announcement, expressed pride in the fact that the new bank at Ahsoskie is the first in that area to offer drive-in teller service and ample parking space for banking customers.

C. W. Parker, who has served for several years as assistant vice president and public relations officer in the home office, was named sometime ago as manager of the Ahsoskie office.

Mr. Parker has been associated with the bank for 29 years. He now holds the title of vice president. Joel T. Lee, an Ahsoskie resident, has been named assistant manager of the new office.

The banking operations there will be housed in a completely new colonial-type building similar to the one recently erected here. The lobby has space for seven tellers, a safety deposit department and the manager's office.

The building also contains a spacious conference room and bookkeeping room on the lobby level. A second floor has also been provided for possible future expansion, but will not be completed until a later date, it was said.

Just as is the case at the Plymouth office, the new bank will feature two drive-in windows, one on either side of the building, parking space for about 20 cars, and a night depository.

Besides the Ahsoskie and Plymouth offices, the bank also has two offices in Rocky Mount. Its main office was completed in 1907—eight years after it first opened its doors for business—and its drive-in office, similar in design and construction to the building opened at Plymouth December 10 of last year, and the Ahsoskie office, was opened in 1950.

Republicans Here Subscribe Quota

The Lincoln Day Dinner for the state organization of the Republican party will be held Saturday of this week at Radio Center, Charlotte.

The Washington County quota of \$50 has been subscribed and sent in to Republican state headquarters entitling the county organization to five seats at the affair.

T. D. Somerville, who was elected Republican county chairman at the convention February 11, will attend the dinner at Charlotte.

National Chairman Leonard W. Hall will be the principal speaker and will be introduced by Congressman Charles R. Jonas, of the tenth district of North Carolina. The Republican congressional convention is slated for February 26 at 8 p. m. at the Beaufort County courthouse, Washington.

The Republican party plans to enter candidates on the county, state and congressional tickets for the November election.

Extension of Plymouth Route One Authorized

Authorization from the Post Office Department for an extension of Plymouth Route 1 to take in the Walter Moore Road near Cool Springs was received this week by Postmaster J. C. Swain.

The extension calls for eight tenths of a mile which is to be retraced, adding 1.6 miles to the present route. The extension will become effective March 16, it was said.

The total length of the route will be increased from 52.30 miles to 53.90 miles by the extension, Postmaster Swain said.

EVERYTHING'S READY FOR A LONG, HARD WINTER



Hog killing was the order of the day on many Washington County farms during the recent cold spell. This picture shows some of the aftermath spread out on the floor of a smokehouse not too far from here. Backbones, spareribs, hams, shoulders, side meat, bacon strips and even a pot full of chit-lin's are shown here, evidence that this farm family is ready for whatever the future brings.—Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

Colored Man Burned To Death in Fire Here

Johnny Mack Pettiford Is Burned Beyond Recognition in Trailer Fire; Firemen Answer 13 Alarms

A five-day span from Wednesday of last week through Sunday was the busiest for local firemen in the history of the department, Fire Chief I. Miller Warren reports.

During the period firemen answered 13 alarms, more than for any week ever before.

Most of the alarms were for grass fires with no damage resulting but one fire was quite serious, claiming the life of Johnny Mack Pettiford, Plymouth Negro believed to have been in his late thirties. Pettiford had been employed by a local funeral home, it is understood. The man was burned beyond recognition but Pettiford lived in the trailer alone.

The blaze in which Pettiford perished destroyed the one-room trailer in which he was sleeping. The trailer was located on Pettiford Lane in the Sugar Hill section of Plymouth. The alarm was sounded at 4:30 a. m. Saturday and when firemen arrived the trailer was falling apart, Chief Warren stated. Origin of the fire has not been determined.

A second alarm was sounded Saturday at 1 p. m. when fire was discovered in the office of the Etheridge Company here, shortly after the place had been closed to business for the day. Firemen promptly brought the fire under control and the chief damage was to records in the office, according to Chief Warren.

Warren said the firemen answered alarms for six grass fires Wednesday, three Thursday and Friday and two Sunday.

Regular Meeting of VFW Scheduled Here Tonight

The regular meeting of Bosie Bateman Post No. 4023, Veterans of Foreign Wars, will be held at the Veterans Club here Thursday night of this week, Commander W. J. Weaver has announced.

Mr. Weaver said the sale of tickets to the forthcoming Veterans Dance is now getting underway.

Issues Warning On Plant Beds

County Agent W. H. Pruden stated this week that he knew of some farmers who had treated tobacco plant beds with methyl bromide and then seeded the beds too early after removing the cover.

Mr. Pruden declared that in such cases the best thing to do is to reseed the bed, since a period of at least 48 hours is needed after removing covers for the beds to air before being seeded.

Local PTA Holds Father's Night; Hears Mrs. Bell

Association Votes \$100 To School Cafeteria; Furgurson Discusses Blood Bank Program

At the February meeting of the Plymouth Parent-Teacher Association, held on Tuesday night, prizes for the largest number of fathers present went to Mrs. Selma Chesson's first grade; Mrs. Essie Lassiter's second- (third grade); Mrs. Mary Dinkins' fifth grade; and in the high school there was a four-way tie between Mr. Foster's ninth grade, Mr. Inabett's ninth grade, Mrs. Norman's tenth grade and Mrs. Long's eleventh grade.

In keeping with the 50th anniversary of the founding of National Parent-Teacher Association Mrs. Ben Ganderson, local president, read a Founders' Day message. The following nominating committee was elected: Mrs. Woodrow Collins, Mrs. Jack Peele, and Mrs. Lyman Mayo. The organization voted to contribute \$100 toward the purchase of a new, larger mixer for the school cafeteria.

Dr. E. W. Furgurson discussed the Blood Bank program, and announced that a prize of \$10 would be given to the school room getting the largest number of blood donors on March 10th. Children may ask parents, neighbors and friends to give blood at that time.

Mrs. Georgie Frost Barnes presented a pre-reading program for children entering school in September, and asked the group to consider participation in such a program.

After an appropriate devotional by Mrs. P. B. Nickens, the program chairman, Mrs. H. C. Carter, introduced Miss Martha Parker, a graduate of Plymouth High School and of William and Mary College, who is now working with Washington County Public Welfare Department. Miss Parker, in turn introduced the main speaker of the evening, Mrs. Holy Mack Bell, of Windsor, who is Child Welfare Worker for Bertie County. Mrs. Bell's subject was "How the Welfare Department Works Through the Home and the School in Aiding the Exceptional Child," meaning the exceptionally bright or the exceptionally slow children, who are in these groups because of physical, emotional or mental handicaps. The State maintains a traveling unit of trained psychologists and psychoanalysts who go from county to county to test and prescribe for such cases. Her background in education and experience enabled Mrs. Bell to discuss the subject capably, and her references to individual case histories added interest.

Attendance banners were then awarded to Miss Ethel Perry's first grade and Mrs. Selma Chesson's first grade (a tie); Mrs. Essie Lassiter's second-third grade; Mrs. Mary Dinkins' fifth grade; and Mr. Joe Foster's ninth grade.

Mother of Local Resident Passes

Mrs. Isabella Corey Hardison, mother of Clyde Hardison, of Plymouth, died in a Williamston hospital at 1:30 o'clock last Thursday afternoon.

Funeral services were held at the home in Griffins Township Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Elder P. E. Gethinger and the Rev. W. B. Harrington. Interment followed in Hardison Mill Cemetery.

Mrs. Hardison had been in declining health for the past five weeks. Her condition became critical and she was removed to the hospital week before last. Little hope had been held for her recovery.

Mrs. Hardison was the daughter of the late John Gray and Prudence Hardison Corey, and was born in Griffins Township, Martin County, May 14, 1881. She was a lifelong resident of the county. She was married January 28, 1900, to James Nicholson Hardison who died in 1920.

Mrs. Hardison was a member and faithful attendant of Smithwick Creek Primitive Baptist Church for many years. Surviving, besides the son here, are six other sons, Hubert and Ollie Hardison, of Washington, D. C.; Fenner Hardison, of the home; Jesse David Hardison, of Griffins Township; John Ashley Hardison, of Columbia; and Wendell Hardison, of Norfolk, Va.; a daughter, Mrs. Prudy Ellis, of Griffins Township; and a sister, Mrs. Lou Griffin, also of Griffins Township.

Plymouth Host To District Meeting

Plymouth plays host Thursday of this week to the supervisors of Pamlico Soil Conservation District.

The meeting will be held in the auditorium of the Washington County Agriculture Building, beginning at 10 o'clock in the morning. A luncheon will be held in the banquet room of the Mayflower Restaurant.

It will be the first supervisors' meeting for 1954 in the Pamlico district which is made up of Tyrrell, Beaufort, Hyde and Washington Counties. Three supervisors will be elected to serve each county in the district and a chairman and secretary-treasurer of the district board of supervisors will also be named.

Allen Swindell, of Beaufort County, is the present chairman and J. C. Bishop, of Hyde County, is secretary-treasurer. Washington County supervisors are C. F. Heymen, of Wenoona, J. A. Morris, of Creswell, and Joe Snell, of Plymouth.

The annual report for 1953 will be submitted at the meeting. The meeting is open to all persons interested in conservation, it was announced.

Services Held for Mrs. Nellie Swain

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the home for Mrs. Nellie Knowles Swain, 77, of Roper. The Rev. V. A. Lewis officiated, assisted by the Rev. R. L. Gardiner. Burial was in Zion's Chapel Church Cemetery.

Mrs. Swain died at 4:15 a. m. Tuesday at her home following a brief illness. She had been in declining health for several years. Mrs. Swain was a native and lifelong resident of the county. She was born August 22, 1876, the daughter of the late Anson and Matilda Gaylord. Her husband was the late Walter R. Swain. She was a member of Saints Delight Church of Christ, near Roper.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Ted C. Martus, of Roper; a son, W. Barton Swain, of Roper; and two brothers, Ted and Walter Knowles, also of Roper.

Prize in Essay Contest Won by Betty Davenport

Miss Betty Davenport has been awarded the \$5 prize offered by the Plymouth Literary Club for the winning essay submitted by high school students on the subject, "What America Means To Me."

The announcement was made by Mrs. W. A. Davidson, president of the literary club. The essay contest was sponsored by the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Miss Davenport is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Davenport and is a ninth grade student at Plymouth High School.

Boating Club Is Organized Here

A club to be known temporarily as the Plymouth Boating Club was organized at a meeting held aboard the Sea Scout Ship Albemarle last Friday night.

Appointed on a temporary basis were the following officers: Lonnie Craddock, commodore, Norwood Nobles, vice commodore, and Leroy Sitterson, secretary-treasurer.

Location and building of a loading ramp was discussed. Also, a motion was made by Lonnie Craddock, seconded by Billy Blackburn, and carried, that the secretary-treasurer request information on club organization from the American Power Boat Association.

Present members of the club were listed as Lonnie Craddock, Norwood Nobles, Leroy Sitterson, Philip Trueblood, Woodrow Dixon, Robert D. Swain, Billy Blackburn, Gene Hollowell, Larry Watson and Eddie Ricks.

The next meeting will be held Friday night of this week aboard the Albemarle.

District Superintendent To Visit Plymouth Church

District Superintendent C. Freeman Heath will deliver the sermon at the regular morning worship hour at Plymouth Methodist Church Sunday morning, the Rev. D. L. Fouts, minister of the church, has announced.

The Rev. Mr. Heath will also conduct the first quarterly conference immediately following the service.

This will be the first visit of the newly-appointed superintendent to the Plymouth church. Visitors are cordially invited.

Masons Make Plans To Start on Building

Contract was let this week for footings of a Masonic Temple to be constructed on the corner of East Third Street and Andrew Jackson Avenue.

The contract was awarded to R. L. Tetterton, of Plymouth, for \$620. Contract for the building, a 40 by 70 foot concrete block and brick veneer structure, will be let later.

Final blueprints for the building are now being drawn, it was stated.

The contract was let at the regular meeting of Perseverance Lodge No. 59, A. F. & A. M., at the lodge hall here Tuesday night.

The present lodge hall has been in use since 1942.

A full attendance is being urged for the next regular meeting of the lodge Tuesday night of next week.

CORRECTION

Attention of readers is called to the ad in this issue of *The Beacon* listing the anti-rabies vaccination schedules, and in which several errors in dates appear.

The scheduled turned in by Oliver Lucas listed dates in April which should read "February." Those who follow the ad in tracing the schedule should read February in each instance where "April" occurs. A news article on the schedule also appears in this issue and carries the correct dates.