

A group of fishermen from Plymouth had very good luck at Bluff Shoals in Pamlico County last Saturday and Sunday. They caught from 50 to 60 trout, according to Harry W. Gurkin, and many of them weighed 3 to 4 pounds. The group included, besides Mr. Gurkin, Jim Etheridge, Bill Leary, Colon Bowen and L. W. Gurkin, sr. They fished from Harry Gurkin's cruiser, leaving here Friday night and returning Sunday. They also visited Ocracoke while they were gone.

Mr. and Mrs. F. I. Hartung, of Wenoona, were in Plymouth Friday. It was learned that they were observing their 52nd wedding anniversary that day, and they had dinner at the Mayflower Restaurant to mark the occasion. While they did not divulge their age, both are very active. Mr. Hartung is an avid hunter and fisherman and loves to yarn with the best of 'em. They called on a number of their many friends in the community while they were in town.

Frank C. Bickerstaff, sr., who was injured in a fall at the pulp mill here Tuesday of last week, was reported to be improving steadily at a Raleigh hospital yesterday. He was taken to Raleigh last Thursday and operated on Monday to drain congealed blood from his badly injured left knee. His attending physician said yesterday he should be able to return to Plymouth by the first of next week.

Chief of Police and Mrs. P. W. Brown returned Tuesday night after spending a few days with their son Charles D. Brown, and family in Salisbury, Md. They left Friday and, for a wonder, the chief says he didn't get to see a single baseball game while he was up there. Usually he magoes to see the Washington Senators in action whenever he visits his son.

A. K. Spencer, instructor in industrial arts at Plymouth High School, has been out of school this week as the result of an unusual accident. Barefooted, he was mowing grass in the yard of his home near Columbia last week-end when he got a foot caught in the mower. He suffered a bad cut and a broken toe. It is thought he will be back in school by next Monday.

Plymouth Juniors Hosts To Seniors Last Friday Night

Annual Banquet in School Lunch Room Followed By Prom in Gymnasium; "Paris" Theme of Setting

Plymouth High School Juniors entertained the seniors, faculty members and several invited guests at the annual junior-senior banquet and dance here last Friday night. The banquet was held in the school cafeteria starting at 7 p. m., and was followed by the prom in the gymnasium at 9 o'clock.

"Paris" was the motif carried out in the program, decorations and costumes of waiters and waitresses at the banquet and dance. Harriet Keyes, president of the junior class, presided at the banquet and made the address of welcome. Dwight Kelly, senior class president, made the response.

Other items on the program were: Toast to the school by Jimmy Jackson, vice president of the juniors, with the response by Principal J. S. Fleming. Vocal solo by Mrs. J. B. Carr. Toast to the faculty, Mary Johnson; and response by J. B. Carr; saxophone solo by Edward Taylor; toast to the school board by Ray Lilley and response by C. W. Dinkins. A song in French by the 12 sophomore waiters and waitresses, closed the program.

The gym was beautifully decorated and arranged with sidewalk tables for the Parisian setting. The young people in their evening gowns and dinner coats provided a colorful scene for the parents and visitors who had a space reserved for them along one side of the building. Dick Levin and his State College orchestra provided music.

Bid for Old Macedonia School Is Again Raised

The bid for the Macedonia cooled school building and lot was raised again last week, it was learned yesterday from County School Superintendent R. F. Lowry. A. M. Koehelis submitted a bid of \$3,090 for the property, which has been offered at auction some four or five times recently.

At the first sale of the property several months ago, the top bid was \$1,500. Each time it has been sold the bid has been raised until it now stands at \$3,090.

2nd District Lawyers To Meet Here

Lawyers of the second judicial district will meet in Plymouth at the country club on Thursday, May 13, starting at 5:30 p. m., it was announced this week by W. L. Whitley, local attorney and president of the Second District Bar. Dinner will be served to the visiting lawyers following a business meeting.

Survey Panel's Plans Adopted for Schools

PRESS MEET SINGER



Miss Nancy Rainey, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. L. J. Rainey, of Creswell, is on the entertainment program for the spring meeting of the Eastern North Carolina Press Association at Murfreesboro Friday and Saturday of this week. Miss Rainey, a Chowan College student with a fine soprano voice, will sing at the Friday evening banquet.

Agent Says Malathion Sure Killer of Beetles

County Agent W. H. Pruden reports that malathion really does the work in killing bean leaf beetles and Mexican bean beetles. He said he tried out the preparation in his garden here Monday afternoon, dusting his bean plants liberally. The next morning he was unable to find a live beetle anywhere, although there were as many as five dead beetles under some plants.

He again warns gardeners, however, not to use this insecticide after the bean pods start forming, as it is poisonous to humans.

Small Fire at Atlas Plant Here Yesterday

Plymouth firemen were called out yesterday morning about 9:30 by a fire at the Atlas Plywood Corporation plant. The old office building there, now used for storage, was damaged some by having a hole burned in the roof, but the fire was quickly extinguished. Origin of the blaze was not determined. Damage was not believed to exceed \$75 to \$100.

LOCAL JUNIORS AND SENIORS GATHER FOR ANNUAL BANQUET



Typical of activities underway as county schools near the end of another term is this photo of local high school students gathering for the annual junior-senior banquet and prom here last Friday evening. The girls are decked out in orchids and evening dresses of all hues, while the boys, many of them for the first time, are sporting boutonnieres on their white dinner jackets with dark trousers. No attempt was made to identify those in the picture above, as many of them were too excited to correctly name even themselves right then.—Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

This will be the annual district meeting, and a number of business matters are to be considered, including election of officers for the coming year. About 50 to 60 attorneys are expected to attend the sessions. The Second District Bar is composed of lawyers from Washington, Martin, Edgecombe, Nash and Wilson Counties. Present officers are W. L. Whitley, of Plymouth, president; Vinson Bridges, of Tarboro, vice president; and Carl L. Bailey, jr., of Plymouth, secretary-treasurer.

Inadequate Sewer System in Village Talked by Council

Delegation Told Action Not Likely Until New Budget Is Set Up; Other Matters Considered Monday

A group of irate citizens from the country club village descended on the Plymouth City Council at its Monday night meeting, demanding that something be done about inadequate cess pools and septic tanks serving the area. They calmed down a lot after Mayor Riddle and the council members agreed they had a legitimate gripe and promised to do what they could to remedy conditions when the next budget is set up.

The council also acted on several other matters, including banning future carnival visits here, appointment of a budget committee and placing drip barrels in near-by swamps to help control mosquitoes. Mayor A. J. Riddle presided, and all six members of the council were present: E. D. Keel and W. C. Hall, first ward; J. B. Latham and George W. Harrison, second ward; J. F. Davenport and J. D. Cruickshank, third ward.

There were seven members in the delegation from the country club village: M. J. Polk, William Ruffin, R. M. Allen, C. S. Brewer, Wesley Ange, Carl Roberson and Charles Gardner. They presented a petition bearing 89 signatures, all residents of the area, asking that something be done to improve sewage disposal in the area.

The sewer system in the village has been a headache for several years, both before and after the area was taken into the corporate limits. Many of the complaints center about the three cess pools serving houses on the north side of Golf Road. Inadequate to serve the volume of sewage material, they overflow and in dry weather create an offensive odor throughout the village.

State health authorities have ruled they are inadequate and insanitary. M. O. Caton, sanitary engineer for the state board of health, made a survey within the past few weeks, and town officials have been advised by the state board that some action to alleviate the situation should be taken immediately.

After hearing the delegation Monday night, councilmen agreed to do whatever possible to remedy conditions. It is believed by most of them that an entire new sewer line may have to be constructed, with pumps necessary to lift the sewage at certain points.

See SEWER, Page 12

Vaccinations Law Ordered Enforced By Commissioners

Board Also Acts To Keep Carnivals Out of County; Other Matters Considered At Meeting Monday

Washington County commissioners, at their monthly meeting Monday, decided to "get tough" with dog owners who fail to have their animals vaccinated as required by law and also ruled that carnivals and traveling shows should be taxed the maximum amount allowed by state law, regardless of the sponsoring agency. They also received the budget estimate for operation of county schools during the coming year, but postponed action until budgets for other county departments are prepared.

John J. Gilbert, district highway engineer who is stationed in Plymouth, appeared before the board with a special invitation from J. Emmett Winslow, of Hertford, first division highway commissioner, for all board members and county officers to attend dedication of the new highway commission shops Friday of next week at 4 p. m. The ceremony will be held at the site of the new shops, about three miles north of Hertford, and Governor William B. Umstead is to be the principal speaker. The commissioners extended their thanks for the invitation, and it was indicated some of the county officials would be present.

The problem of unvaccinated dogs has become more acute each year. After discussing the matter at some length, the commissioners directed that owners of all dogs not vaccinated by May 31 be prosecuted after that date. It was also ordered that an advertisement be inserted in the local paper next week notifying dog owners that they can expect to be prosecuted if the law requiring vaccination of all dogs is not obeyed.

The motion that, in effect, bars carnivals from the county was made by J. C. Knowles and second by H. L. Davenport. It directs that the tax collector be instructed to collect the maximum tax allowed by state law from any carnival or other traveling show operating in the county, regardless of who the sponsor may be. In the past, the county tax has not been charged when carnivals appeared under the sponsorship of local civic, veterans and similar organizations.

The county board of education presented its budget for the 1954-55 school year.

See VACCINATIONS, Page 7

Miss Jane Crofton Is One of Finalists In Queens Contest

Made Several Appearances On Television Shows at Norfolk Station Last Friday and Saturday

Washington County was well represented by Miss Jane Crofton of Plymouth, in the queen's contest sponsored by a Norfolk television station last Friday and Saturday. Although Miss Crofton didn't win, she was one of three finalists out of 39 entrants representing various towns and counties in the North Carolina and Virginia tide-water area.

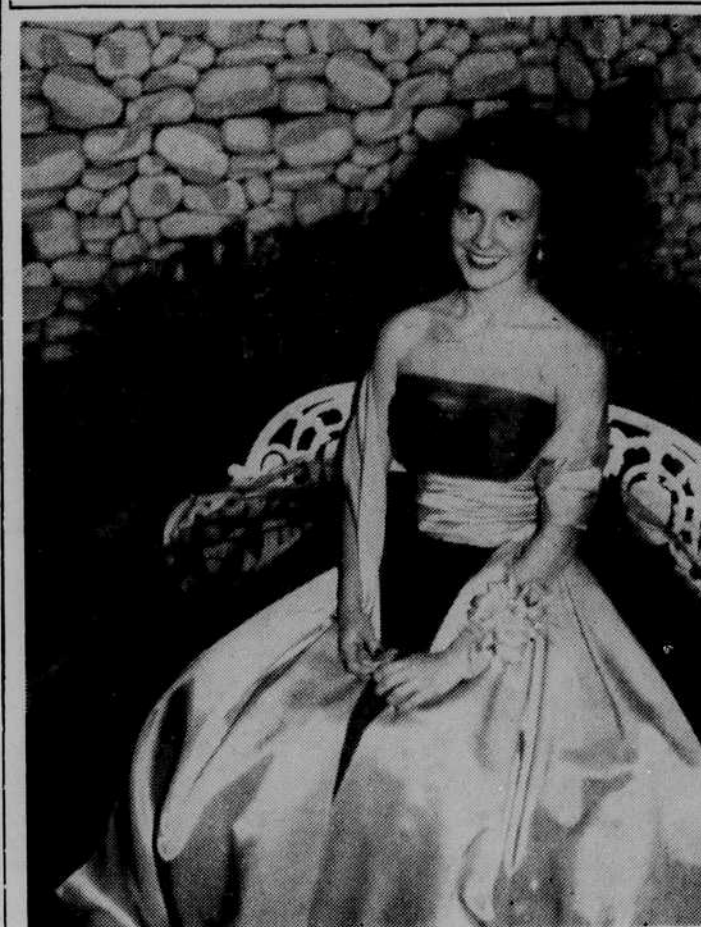
Chosen as Miss WTAR-TV was Miss Peggy Harvin, of Woodland, representing Northampton County. Miss Crofton, a diminutive brunette, and Miss Hampton Slingluff, of Virginia Beach, a striking blonde, were the other two finalists from which the queen was selected. Both Miss Crofton and Miss Slingluff were Miss Harvin's attendants in the May Day festivities marking dedication of the Norfolk station's new Channel 3 Tower.

Miss Crofton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Crofton of Plymouth, made several television appearances Friday and Saturday, before and after the judging. She was chosen several weeks ago to represent the county at the Potato Festival in Elizabeth City on May 14 and 15.

Washington County veterans' clubs are sponsoring Miss Crofton in the queen's contest at the potato festival next week, and she will be crowned "Miss Washington County" at the Queen's Ball to be held at the veterans building here Saturday night. She will be crowned by Miss Betty Ann Burnham, "Miss Washington County" of 1953 and also winner of the queen's contest at the potato festival last year.

Precinct Meetings To Be Held Saturday Morning

DOES ALL RIGHT AS 'MISS WASHINGTON COUNTY'



Miss Jane Crofton, representing Washington County in the queen's contest of a Norfolk television station last week-end, was one of three finalists out of 39 entrants from eastern North Carolina and Virginia. A senior in Plymouth High School, she was television appearances in Norfolk Friday and Saturday, rushing back to Plymouth between times to take part in the junior-senior banquet and prom Friday night, when the above photo was made.—Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

Chairman Issues Call for Sessions To Start at 11 A.M. at Six Polling Places In County

Democratic party precinct meetings will be held in the six Washington County precincts Saturday morning of this week, May 8th, at 11 a. m. Official call for the meetings was issued Monday by Carl L. Bailey, chairman of the county Democratic executive committee, who urges as large an attendance as possible.

Precinct meetings usually do not receive the attention they should from people in the county. The party set-up for county, state and nation originate at the precinct meetings in this state, and the only way a citizen can have any voice in party councils is by attendance at the precinct sessions.

The county convention will be held on the following Saturday, May 15, with district and state conventions on Thursday, May 20, in Raleigh. The county convention will be held in the courthouse here at 11 a. m. May 15. Precinct meetings this week will be held at the polling place in each respective precinct. Delegates to county conventions are elected at precinct meetings; and delegates to district and state conventions are chosen at the county meeting.

Principal business at the precinct meetings, in addition to election of delegates to the county convention, is selection of executive committees, chairman of which automatically become members of the county executive committee. Instead of electing delegates to the county convention, the usual practice is to name "all Democrats in good standing" as delegates.

Precinct polling places where the meetings are to be held Saturday are as follows: Plymouth Precinct No. 1, courthouse; Plymouth No. 2, high school building; Lees Mill, community building; Skimmersville, J. A. Goodman's store; Scuppernon, tax collector's office in Creswell; and Wenoona, residence of H. J. Furbee.

Under the Democratic party plan of organization, each precinct shall elect an executive committee consisting of five active Democrats, at least two of which shall be women. The committee so elected shall choose from its membership a chairman and vice chairman, one of whom shall be a woman. The chairman serves as a member of the county executive committee.

Each precinct is entitled to cast in the county convention one vote for every 25 Democratic votes cast at the last gubernatorial election. Under this plan, the six precincts have the following number of votes in the county convention: Plymouth No. 1, 22; Plymouth No. 2, 34; Lees Mill, 16; Skimmersville, 16.

See PRECINCTS, Page 12

Home-Club Week Being Observed

This week, from Sunday, May 2, through Saturday, May 8, is being observed as National Home Demonstration Week in Washington County, according to Mrs. Frances M. Darden, county home demonstration agent.

County home demonstration club women are holding a county council meeting, flower show and tea Thursday afternoon in the Agriculture Building. The county council meeting is starting at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Each club member has been invited to attend and bring her best arrangements of flowers or potted plants.

Mrs. Darden said each club is being urged to work toward increasing its membership during the present week. Hoke Club is at the head of the list in securing new memberships so far this year.

Boards Take Action To Outlaw Carnivals

County Commissioners and City Council Direct Levy Of Full Tax, Regardless Of Sponsorship

Traveling carnivals of the type with which Plymouth has been cursed for many years, for all practical purposes, outlawed in Washington County by separate actions of the county commissioners and Plymouth City Council Monday.

On motion of J. C. Knowles, seconded by H. L. Davenport, and carried without a dissenting vote, the county commissioners decided Monday morning to direct the tax collector to collect the maximum amount of tax allowed by state law for all carnivals and traveling shows operating in this county, regardless of sponsorship by any local organization. Heretofore, carnivals sponsored by civic or veterans organizations have not charged any tax.

Monday night, the matter was brought to the attention of the Plymouth city council by Mayor A. J. Riddle, and by unanimous vote a previous order allowing two carnivals a year here was rescinded, and it was ordered that no carnivals be allowed here.

Carnivals operating here have been the subject of considerable criticism and controversy in recent years. Gambling joints and lewd shows have dominated most of the traveling aggregations, which pay sponsoring organizations several hundred dollars in order to escape the high tax levied and to give the shows some semblance of respectability.

Matters reached a climax here recently, when one of the carnivals put up here during Holy Week, causing concern to many individuals and religious organizations. Mayor Riddle said Monday night he had received a number of letters about the matter, and it was decided to eliminate them altogether.

The state taxes carnivals and traveling shows from \$100 to \$300 per week, depending on size of the locality where they show or number of vehicles in the aggregation. State law provides that counties and towns may tax such shows and carnivals one-half the amount of the state tax. Local taxes have been waived in the past due to pressure by local sponsoring organizations.

Plan Sunday Services At Morrattock Church

Services will be held Sunday afternoon at 3:30 at Morrattock Church, near Plymouth, by Elder R. B. Denson, the minister, it was announced yesterday. The public is invited to attend.

Both Banks Here To Close Monday

May is a banner month for employees of banking institutions in this state, as they get three holidays, spaced exactly 10 days apart. Next Monday, May 10, is Confederate "Decoration Day"; Thursday, May 20, is Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence Day; and since National Memorial Day, May 30, falls on Sunday, banks will observe the following Monday, May 31, as a holiday.

Both the Planters National Bank & Trust Company and the Branch Banking & Trust Company here will be closed next Monday, H. E. Beam, vice president and cashier of the Branch, and Marvin Weaver, local manager for the Planters, will be in Pinchurst at the annual convention of the North Carolina Bankers Association.

Boating Club Members To Meet Friday Night

Members of the "Plymouth Boat Club," an informal organization of local boating enthusiasts, will meet Friday, May 7, at 7:30 p. m. at the clubhouse of the Albenarle Hunting Club, it was announced this week by Leroy Sitterson, secretary.

W. Blount Rodman, local attorney, will be present to discuss the legal procedure for obtaining a formal charter for the organization and to furnish other information along that line. All members are requested to be present and anyone interested is invited to attend.

District Methodists Hold Meeting Here

Approximately 175 Methodists attended the Elizabeth City District Conference held with the Plymouth church Tuesday of this week. Sessions were held in the new educational building of the local church, completion of which has been rushed in the past few weeks for the meetings.

The morning session began at 9:30, with the devotional service conducted by W. S. Davenport of Plymouth, minister for the Jamesville Methodist charge. Z. V. Norman gave the welcome for the morning session. Following the morning program, including worship service and sermon by Walter Anderson, luncheon was served by women of the local church.

The afternoon session began at 2 o'clock, with prayer by the Rev. D. L. Fouts of the Plymouth church. Mr. Fouts, as district chairman of Christian Education, also spoke briefly during the morning session. A number of prominent lay leaders and ministers of the district took part in the programs. The Rev. C. Freeman Heath, of Elizabeth City, is district superintendent.