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ESTABLISHED 1899

Robert H. Gurganus, jr., will leave Friday for an Air Force base at Colorado Springs, Colo., after spending about a month here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Gurganus. Bobby went into the Air Force early this year and has been at Colorado Springs since finishing his basic training in Texas. He expects to get an overseas assignment in the Far East after returning to Colorado.

Ross Knowles was official delegate from the Plymouth MYF to the Youth Annual Conference held Monday through Friday of last week at Duke University, Durham. Mary Eleanor Sanderson, reserve delegate, Betsy Barnhill, Doty Thompson and Jacque House attended the Youth Rally on the final day of the conference. There were about 1,000 in attendance, including some 400 official delegates.

J. B. McNair, of Plymouth, is a patient at the Veterans Hospital at Kecoughtan, Va., and is expected to undergo an operation for stomach ulcers sometime this week. He will remain at the hospital for some time. Anyone wishing to write him can address the mail in care of the hospital.

Thomas J. Davenport and children, Norma, Donald and Ronald, left Tuesday morning for their home in Detroit, Michigan, after having spent a week visiting Mr. Davenport's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Davenport, at Pettigrew Park. The elder Mr. Davenport served for many years as park ranger.

Donald B. Freeman, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Freeman, of Plymouth and Roper, made the dean's list for the summer quarter at East Carolina College, Greenville, it was announced this week. Young Freeman, who will be a senior at the next term, is a candidate for a B.S. degree in social science.

"Red" Browning Is Home For Few Days From Army

Wayne ("Red") Browning is home for two weeks from Camp Gordon, near Augusta, Ga., where he recently completed basic training with the U. S. Army Signal Corps. He went out to football practice here Tuesday night and helped Coach Joe Foster some with the Panther linemen. "Red" was an all-conference tackle in his high school days at Plymouth and later played guard for the Chowan College Braves and the University of Richmond Spiders. Son of Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Browning, of Plymouth, he completed his work at the University of Richmond in June and reported to the Army almost immediately afterwards.

Fair Not To Be Held This Year

A spokesman for the Plymouth Junior Chamber of Commerce stated this week that the Jaycees definitely would not sponsor the annual Washington County Fair here this year. The reason given for the decision was difficulty in securing an appropriate midway. The fair, originating as a project of the Jaycees with profits earmarked for the Jaycee playground fund, has been held here for the past three years. Purpose of the fair was listed as "to foster better living and create a keen interest in community and home improvement in the county." It was hinted that some other project might be undertaken by the club to take the place of the fair, but nothing definite was revealed this week.

Jimmy Knowles Winner In State Dairy Contest

Jimmy Knowles, of near Plymouth, was presented a plaque and \$130 in cash as winner in the State Star Dairy Farmer contest at the state FFA convention held at State College in Raleigh last week. Jimmy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Linwood Knowles, who live over the line in Martin County but usually call Plymouth their home town. The young man is a member of the Jamesville FFA class. The prizes were contributed by the National Dairy Products Corporation.

Bloodmobile Due Here September 8

With the quota cut to 110 pints, local blood bank leaders are anticipating a successful operation when the Red Cross bloodmobile unit from Tidewater Regional Blood Center, Norfolk, Va., pays its regular quarterly visit to Plymouth Wednesday, September 8th. The set-up will again be made at the Veterans Club near the

SCHOOL BUSES NEARING END OF VACATION, TOO



Parked back of the county garage here since last spring, this school bus presents a somewhat forlorn appearance, surrounded by wheel-high weeds. It has not been forgotten, however, as Chief Mechanic H. E. Newberry and his helpers have been giving all the busses a thorough going over, tuning them up and putting everything in tip-top shape for the opening of a new school term next Wednesday, September 1. The county school system operates 36 busses, 15 serving colored schools and 21 white. The number in use this year is the same as last, but three old busses are being replaced by new ones for the coming term.—Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

Ask Bids on Several Local Highway Jobs

Seek Full Use Of ACP Funds

All agencies and organizations dealing with the Department of Agriculture are putting on a special drive during the remainder of August and September to see that Washington County farmers do not lose any of their 1954 federal cost-share for needed conservation practices approved by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation program. The county farm leaders, in a joint meeting recently, requested an additional \$300 for such use under the 1954 program in this county.

Bridge Over Welch's Creek Is To Be Widened; Mill Pond Road Out of Roper Will Be Surfaced

Several Washington County projects are included in those for which bids will be received by the State Highway Commission on September 7. It was learned this week. One of them is for widening the bridge over Welch's Creek on U. S. 64 about three miles west of Plymouth. This is considered a Martin-Washington County project, since the bridge marks the boundary between the two counties. The bridge over Welch's Creek was constructed in the 1920's. At that time the highway was only 16 feet wide and the bridge only slightly wider. The highway was widened to 20 feet nearly two years ago, except for a few hundred feet on the Washington County side of the bridge. It is presumed this portion of the road will also be widened after the width of the bridge is increased. Other projects for which bids are to be received include sand-asphalt surfacing of the Mill Pond Road out of Roper; also surfacing of a short stretch from U. S. 64 in Roper southwest to an intersection with a county road; and surfacing of about 1 mile from the northern edge of Cherry southwest to the pavement at Spruill's store.

Highest Average Posted Monday on Markets of Belt

Several Grades Reported To Be Selling Steady To \$1 a Hundred Pounds Higher This Week

Average prices remained firm on Eastern Belt markets Monday and Tuesday of this week as offerings of tobacco continued light. Several grades were reported selling steady to \$1 a hundred higher. It was said that offerings of nondescript and poor leaf was lowering general quality of tobacco on the warehouse floors. The highest daily average of the young season was posted Monday when 3,756,494 pounds sold for an average of \$53.70, an increase of 86 cents over last Friday's average. The Williamston market posted an average of \$56.15 for Monday's sales of 188,150 pounds. Tuesday, the market sold 91,802 pounds for an average of \$54.74. Robersonville averaged \$54.59 on Tuesday for 67,186 pounds. Leaf, primings and lugs made up the bulk of offerings, reports showed. The practical top was said to be 68 cents a pound. Bids were running about like this: Leaf—fair lemon, 62, low lemon 54; cutters—fair lemon, 68, low lemon, 67; lugs—fine lemon, 67, good lemon, 67, good orange, 64, fair lemon, 62, fair orange, 56; primings—good lemon, 60, fair lemon, 52, fair orange, 45, low orange, 34; nondescript—best thin 20. Only two of the seven major companies had buyers on the floor as Middle Belt markets opened sales at Durham, Oxford, Henderson, Warren and Louisville, it was reported.

Main project for which bids have been called is construction of a bridge over Croatan Sound, between Manns Harbor and Roanoke Island. It is estimated this bridge will cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000. The bridge will be 2.7 miles long with a 24-foot roadway. All the bids will be reviewed by the Commission at a meeting on September 9.

School's Schedule Of Fees Released

A schedule of the various student fees at Plymouth schools was released this week for the convenience of students and parents by Principal J. S. Fleming.

Corn Harvest Is Begun in County

It is too early to begin harvesting corn, in the opinion of County Agent W. H. Pruden. Mr. Pruden said this week that one farmer in the Holly Neck section has already begun the harvest, using a mechanical picker. However, the county agent said he had heard nothing about the moisture content of the corn. "The moisture content is probably high, though," Pruden said. Most farmers in the county plan to use mechanical pickers, it was learned. Last year, the pickers came into pretty general use in this county and a successful harvest was reported despite the fact that Hurricane Barbara left the corn nearly flat on the ground in many places.

Joint Meeting of Farm Leaders for County Last Week

Accomplishments and What Is Hoped for Conservation Program in Washington County Reviewed

Several important matters concerning soil conservation practices were discussed at a joint meeting last Thursday of county and community ASC committeemen. SCS representative, county agent, vocational teachers, FHA representative and others. Purpose of the meeting was to create enthusiasm among those present to talk conservation in their respective communities. Leon L. Davenport, vice chairman of the county committee, opened the meeting and gave a brief outline of what the 1954 ACP program has accomplished in the county and what is hoped to be accomplished before the program closes December 31. H. E. Newland, of the Soil Conservation Service, explained the practicability of the open ditch drainage practice. County Agent W. H. Pruden discussed on the pasture practice, using blackboard figures to explain in detail how seed, fertilizer and lime are approved under the Federal cost-share program, estimated cost per acre and the need of a soil sample. Willis Bowen, FHA supervisor, gave several important facts on pastures—land preparation, types of soil, etc. The ASC office manager discussed money available for 1954 ACP, total and cross compliance in 1955 and county and community elections for 1955. The county agent also spoke on the Nickels for Know-How program.

Ordered Held in Shooting Affray

Ben Hedgebeth, colored, was ordered held for the next criminal term of Superior Court under \$1,000 bond when probable cause of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill was found in a preliminary hearing before Judge W. Ronald Gaylord here Tuesday. Hedgebeth is alleged to have fired a rifle at Andrew Chesson, also colored, at about 6 a. m. Sunday in front of Gus Moore's home near Mackeys following an argument said to have been over a gallon of whiskey. The bullet sealed Chesson's jugular vein and lodged below his right ear. He was carried to the Washington County Hospital where he was treated and later released. He was in court Tuesday for the hearing. Chesson lives in the Millpond section near Roper. The scene of the shooting is where two colored women met death by shooting some months ago. Sheriff J. K. Reid arrested Hedgebeth at his home at about 8 o'clock Sunday morning.

Special Services At St. David's Draws Big Crowd

Commemorate 150th Anniversary of Church Near Creswell; "God Still the Hope of World," Said

On Sunday, August 15, at the 11 o'clock worship service, the Rev. George C. Field, jr., rector in charge of St. David's Parish, delivered the sermon at the special service held at St. David's Episcopal Church commemorating the 150th anniversary of the church. The Rev. Mr. Field used as his subject, "God, the Hope of the World." "God today is still the hope of the world, the same as He was 150 years ago when Parson Charles Pettigrew started Pettigrew Chapel where today we are celebrating its 150th anniversary. History has repeated itself in showing us that God has in the past and in present been the hope of the world and that He will be our hope in the future," he said. The Rev. John W. Hardy, rector of Saint Helens Church of Beaufort, S. C., a former rector of St. David's Parish, attended the service, conducted the morning prayer and read the scripture. During the service Miss Margaret Ann Brock, of Richlands, sang a solo, "Bless This House." Miss Lona B. Weatherly was the accompanist. At the conclusion of the service the members of the church and the large number of visitors from all parts of North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Connecticut and Washington, D. C., enjoyed a picnic at Pettigrew Park on the shores of Lake Phelps. St. David's Church was designated as parochial shrine at the convention of the Diocese of East Carolina in 1953. It is located on a dirt road about one mile from Creswell off U. S. 64 and pointed out by a North Carolina Highway sign indicating it as a special site. See SERVICES, Page 7

New Term Will Start Wednesday For All Schools in County System

Sessions Begin Daily at 8:30 With Dismissal at 2 P. M. For First Three Days, Principals States

Everything is in readiness for the opening of Plymouth schools next Wednesday morning at 8:30 o'clock for the 1954-55 session. Principal J. S. Fleming stated yesterday. No formal program has been arranged to mark the opening of school for the new year. Mr. Fleming stated, but the regular Wednesday morning chapel period will be held, starting at 10:35. Mr. Fleming emphasized that school patrons are welcome to visit the school opening day and every day. Registration was largely taken care of before the schools closed last Spring, the principal said, and students will receive their schedule of classes and lesson assignments Wednesday morning, enabling them to get right down to work without any loss of time. Any new students or those who failed to register last Spring should register at the principal's office in the high school before next Wednesday. The office will be open each day, it was said. The school lunchroom will be open the first day of school, again under the management of Miss Blanche Davis. The lunch periods will be staggered to take care of the large number to be served, as has been the case in the past few years. About 200 pupils can be served at a time and more than 600 lunches usually are served daily. Lunch periods will run the same as last year, starting with the smaller children at 11:15 and continuing until 1:05.

Meetings for Teachers Scheduled Next Week

A series of teachers' meetings has been scheduled for Monday and Tuesday of next week, County Superintendent of Schools has announced. A teachers' meeting will be held at the Washington County Union School Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock and will also be addressed by Dean Bryan. Principals will conduct meetings at the various colored schools as follows: Washington County Union School, Monday at 8 p. m.; Plymouth, following general meeting Tuesday; Creswell, about 4 p. m., following general meeting Tuesday.

All Teacher Vacancies in White Schools, Three at Creswell, One at Roper, Over 3,200 Pupils

School bells will ring again for some 3,200 school children in this county Wednesday of next week. That is the date which has been set for the opening for the 1954-55 school year of the county's three white and three colored schools. Extensive preparations have been made by the county board of education during the summer months to have the various plants in good shape for the opening of a new school year. All asphalt tile floors are being given a good scrubbing and waxing this week, County Superintendent Roy F. Lowry stated Wednesday. In addition, most school lunchrooms and toilets have been painted and at the Creswell school where termites had badly damaged underpinning, these have been replaced. Some plaster repair work has also been made, it was stated. Late Wednesday four faculty positions were still unfilled, according to Mr. Lowry. Three of these were at Creswell, two elementary and one high school, and the other at Roper. The faculties of all colored schools were completed as was the faculty at Plymouth High School. Newest teacher addition is Neil Taylor Stout who has been secured to teach the seventh grade at Roper. Mr. Stout, whose wife is a member of the Roper faculty, was recreational director at New Bern last school year. Vacancies to be filled were listed as a sixth grade teacher at Roper and first and third grade teachers and French and mathematics teacher in the high school at Creswell. Mr. Lowry said that in the event the positions at Creswell are unfilled when school opens next week it may be that the teachers who resigned can be prevailed upon to teach until the positions can be permanently filled. Mrs. Jean S. Woolard taught first grade at Creswell last session, while Mrs. Mina Mayton Hampton was third grade teacher and Mrs. Janie McI. Woodley taught French and mathematics in the high school. When all the vacancies are filled there will be 118 teachers on the several school faculties of the county, 66 white teachers and 52 colored teachers. Number of teachers at the various schools was listed by the superintendent of schools as follows: Plymouth, 33; Creswell, 19; Roper, 14—total, 66; Colored Schools—Washington County Union School, Roper, 28; Plymouth, 17; Creswell, 7—total, 52. All books and supplies have been sent to the schools, Mr. Lowry said. The calendar as set by the county board of education will include a one-day holiday for Labor Day, two days for Thanksgiving, two weeks for Christmas and one day for Easter, besides days off for teachers' meetings. The lunchrooms will operate on the same basis as last year and the price of lunches served will remain the same.

Office at High School Is Open

Attention of school patrons is called to the fact that the principal's office at the high school is now open each day and Mr. Fleming states that he will be glad to render every possible service. Parents of children entering elementary school for the first time are reminded to please send certificates of children's birth the first day of school.

Demonstrations in Seeding Pastures Here Next Friday

A large crowd is expected to attend a pasture demonstration to be held at Tide Water Test Farm near here Friday afternoon of next week. Sam Dobson, extension pasture specialist from State College, Raleigh, will be on hand to demonstrate proper seeding of pastures. Time of the demonstration is 2 o'clock. Equipment will be furnished by a local implement dealer. Also, a Greenville equipment dealer will have a representative at the meeting to demonstrate use of chemicals as a brush killer on ditch banks and new ground. Materials will be placed on the ditch banks by proper equipment in order that farmers can observe the proper methods of application and later revisit the farm to note results. Also, Pruden says now is the time to seed pasture. He points out that the early sowed pastures invariably prove the best. Seeding dates were listed by the county agent as from September 1 to October 15. It is also pointed out that pasture seed should be sown by September 15. See PASTURES, Page 12

Extension Pasture Specialist Sam Dobson To Show Proper Method of Seeding At Test Farm

Ben Hedgebeth, colored, was ordered held for the next criminal term of Superior Court under \$1,000 bond when probable cause of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill was found in a preliminary hearing before Judge W. Ronald Gaylord here Tuesday. Hedgebeth is alleged to have fired a rifle at Andrew Chesson, also colored, at about 6 a. m. Sunday in front of Gus Moore's home near Mackeys following an argument said to have been over a gallon of whiskey. The bullet sealed Chesson's jugular vein and lodged below his right ear. He was carried to the Washington County Hospital where he was treated and later released. He was in court Tuesday for the hearing. Chesson lives in the Millpond section near Roper. The scene of the shooting is where two colored women met death by shooting some months ago. Sheriff J. K. Reid arrested Hedgebeth at his home at about 8 o'clock Sunday morning.

PLYMOUTH PANTHERS ARE HAVING THEIR CLAWS SHARPENED UP NOW



Although school doesn't open until next Wednesday and the first football game is not scheduled until September 17th, about 40 members of the Plymouth High School football squad have been hard at work for a week and a half getting ready for the 1954 season. Coach Joe Foster is shown here with three of his backfield prospects practicing hand-offs, a very important part of the Panthers' single-wing offense. That's Blocking Back Jimmy Jackson standing at left, while "Skeeter" Lillie and Peter Levitt are set to receive the ball from Coach Foster, who is showing "Skeeter" how to handle the spinback post. The squad has been through a stiff conditioning program, with some dummy scrimmaging, and they will be ready to go "full blast" in a few more days.—Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

Registrants Leave for Raleigh Center Today

Registrants of Selective Service Board No. 95 here were scheduled to leave Thursday morning of this week by special bus for Raleigh to fill calls for five men for induction and 10 for pre-induction examinations. No calls for either induction or preinduction are being made on the local board for the month of September, Mrs. Lorraine Hunter, board clerk, reports.

Receipts About 1,000 Bushels Pepper a Day

W. T. Freeman, one of the owners and operators of the Plymouth Produce Auction Market, stated Wednesday that receipts of red peppers were running about 1,000 bushels a day this week. Quality was said to be mostly good with prices ranging around 70 cents a bushel. Offerings were being shipped out to a Florida firm. Producers seemed to be pleased with market prices, Mr. Freeman reported, adding that he understood some markets were paying only 50 cents a bushel for the peppers. The peak volume is expected next week, it was said.