

R. F. Lowry, superintendent of public instruction for Washington County, has been invited to serve on a committee representing North Carolina on the study of school finance for the Southern States Work Conference which meets annually in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Owner J. Shepherd Brinkley reports enthusiastic response to showings at the Plymouth Theatre on the newly-installed wide screen. A good-sized crowd was on hand for the first showing using the new Cinemascope screen Sunday and near-capacity crowds have turned out since that time, it was said.

C. E. Steeley, Plymouth merchant who was stricken ill some time ago, continues in critical condition in McCain Sanatorium, near Southern Pines, according to word received here by his wife and son.

Sales of State licenses for motor vehicles have been averaging about 20 a day at the local license bureau since the plates went on sale December 1, a check of records at the local office shows. Sales through business of Wednesday this week showed a total of 279 sales as follows: autos, 205; trucks, 48; and trailers, 26.

Cpl. James H. Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Allen, of Plymouth, has returned home after three years of service with the U. S. Air Force, stationed at Hickam Field, Honolulu, Hawaii. Prior to that Cpl. Allen was stationed at Chanute Field, Illinois, and at West Palm Beach, Florida. He arrived in California in October and has now been separated from the service and plans to enter Boston University this Fall.

Twice lately County ASC Office Manager Miriam Ausbon and staff have been cited by the state office for special commendation and notice in ASC headquarters newsletters. The county force was commended for having over 50 per cent of farms in the county signed to participate in the ACP program. Then Miss Ausbon came in for orchards for her "interesting, completely original newsletter. You're doing a good job of keeping the farmers up-to-date," the commendation concluded.

Speaking of Thanksgiving, which nobody was but we will, Airman 3/C Frank C. Bickerstaff, jr., recently sent his mother a copy of the Thanksgiving menu at Webb Air Force Base, Big Spring, Texas, that is out of this world. It reads: "Tomato juice cocktail with lemon wedges and crackers, roast young tom turkey, baked Virginia ham, bread dressing, giblet gravy, cranberry sauce, snowflake potatoes, candied sweet potatoes, buttered green peas, corn O'Brien, waldorf salad, olives, carrot sticks, pickles, celery hearts, parkerhouse rolls, whole wheat bread, white bread, fruit cake, mince meat pie, apples, bananas, grapes, dates, tangerines, ice cream, mixed candy, salted nuts, coffee - tea, fresh milk, sugar, butter." In a foreword, Col. Cleason E. Freeman, the base commander, wrote: "Count your blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done." The boys at that base were more surprised about the Air Force than they were about the Lord.

Roper Firemen To Canvass Town for Stocking Fund

Roper Firemen will make a house-to-house canvass in Roper Saturday night of this week, starting at 7 o'clock, on behalf of the Empty Stocking drive. Toys, food and usable clothing, contributions of money with which to buy commodities for needy families, and other miscellaneous items will be appreciated. Church bells will ring out at 7 to mark start of the canvass.

Tobacco Allotments To Be Cut 5 Per Cent

It has been announced by County ASC office manager Miriam Ausbon that all flue-cured tobacco growers will take a 5 per cent allotment cut in 1955. This allotment reduction is necessary because tobacco supplies have far exceeded the demand, Miss Ausbon said. She quoted several reasons for the reduced consumption of tobacco, among them being the current scare over cancer, reduced purchases by foreign importers, and a greater per acreage production

Copy for Next Beacon Must Be In Saturday

In order to give employees a longer holiday The Beacon's Christmas issue will be printed Monday of next week. The office will then be closed until the following Tuesday morning, December 28.

Since the paper is to be printed three days early, it will be necessary for all copy to be in the office not later than Saturday. The cooperation of all advertisers and correspondents and related items should be in the office just as early as possible, and no copy can be accepted for publication in the next issue later than Saturday.

20 Plant Employees Will Get Recognition For Lengthy Service

School Closing Friday at Noon

The longest holiday during the school year will begin Friday of this week for some 3,400 school children in Washington County.

County Superintendent of Schools Roy F. Lowry announced this week that all county schools will close at 12:30 p. m. Friday for a two-week Christmas recess. Regular classes will be resumed at all county schools on Monday, January 3, at the usual hour.

99 Respond Here To Blood Unit's Quarterly Visit

Thirteen Rejects During Day With Only 86 Pints Of Blood Secured on Last Visit of Year

A total of 99 potential blood donors responded here on the last visit of the Red Cross bloodmobile, it is reported. The bloodmobile unit made its regular quarterly visit to Plymouth Wednesday of last week and 86 pints of blood were secured. The quota had been set at 110 pints.

The amount donated swelled the grand total for the 16 visits to this county since inauguration of the program in December of 1950 to 2,017 pints.

Those who responded on the recent visit of the unit were listed by blood program clerks as follows:

C. A. Cratch, Edgar Bateman, S. W. McNair, L. Ronald Waters, J. F. Cox, Wiley Moore, colored, C. S. Gardner, Mrs. Marie Simpson, Robert G. Johnson, S. M. Carpenter, Mrs. A. J. Ange, sr.

Also, Rodney Rodgers, Henry Silver, Leora Hudson, colored, Mrs. Doris M. Manning, Charles Fowler, Herbert Sawyer, Howard Davenport, Norman White, Ervin Hassell, J. D. Mallory, Donald Taylor, Hugh Midyette, Raymond Phelps.

Also, Dorothy J. Sutton, H. B. Gaylord, Ed Stuart, H. E. Newberry, Leslie J. Darby, William Waters, John Davenport, Sidney W. Spruill, Jack Weaver, John Wood, Nicholas Ange, Roswell Cox, Fred Doscher, Mrs. Ruth McNair, John H. Rodgers.

Also, Dallas Waters, J. P. Turner, Mrs. Fred Spruill, Robert G. West, Marvin Campbell, Robert Winesette, Benton L. Tetter.

See BLOODMOBILE, Page 8

Recognition for loyal service will be given to several groups of North Carolina Pulp Company employees next Monday, it was learned yesterday from L. J. Darby, industrial relations manager, who is in charge of arrangements for the event.

For the first time in a number of years, there are no new members of the "Old-Timers' Club," composed of employees with 25 years or more service with the Kieckhefer firm. However, there are five employees who will receive silver lapel pins denoting 20 years' service and another group of 15 will receive bronze pins for 15 years' service.

No New Members 25-Year Group This Year; Five Get Silver and Fifteen Bronze Pins Next Monday

The Jaycees are urging everyone who would like to nominate some outstanding young man for this award to make their nomination before the deadline for receiving nominations which is December 31, 1954.

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Mrs. Hooker Dies At Local Hospital

Services were conducted from Plymouth Christian Church Sunday at 2:30 p. m. for Mrs. Matilda (Sade) Hooker, 72, of Plymouth. Officiating was the Rev. Cary Dannelly, assisted by the Rev. C. N. Barnett, Interment was in Windley Cemetery. Mrs. Hooker died at 10:30 p. m. last Thursday at Washington County Hospital.

School Sites To Owens Brothers

The firm of E. L. Owens and A. L. Owens was the high bidder on both the Mt. Delane School and the former Kelly School Site which were bid off at the Washington County Courthouse last Saturday at 11:30 a. m. The Mt. Delane School sold for \$350,000 and the Kelly School Site was bid in at \$50,000.

Clothing Items For Needy Ones

Local Empty Stocking Fund leaders were emphasizing this week the urgent need for usable clothing for distribution to needy Washington County families at Christmastime. It was pointed out that many persons have the idea that clothing is not included in the items desired.

EMPLOYEES, Page 5

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The fact is that clothing is much needed and any usable items of apparel will be greatly appreciated. Some clothing has already been collected, along with canned foods, toys and miscellaneous items and is being sorted and stored by volunteer help in the basement of the courthouse here, under supervision of Mrs. Ursula Spruill, county welfare superintendent. Anyone having any clothing or other contributions for the fund can have them picked up by contacting James T. Boyce or other Empty Stocking leaders.

Nominations for Plymouth's Young Man of Year Soon

December 31 Announced As Deadline for Receiving Nominations; To Be Honored Jaycee Week

Plymouth's most outstanding young men between the ages of 21 and 35 for 1954 will be honored again this year at a banquet which will be given in his honor during Jaycee Week, January 14 through 21. The exact date has not been determined yet.

Jaycee clubs all over the country will be honoring the young man who has contributed most in the way of achievements, leadership and service to his community for the calendar year 1954 during Jaycee Week. Although the recipient of the award is in the age classification of the Jaycees, he need not be, or have been a Jaycee. The award has no relation to Junior Chamber of Commerce membership. The judging committee is made up of a secret committee of prominent local citizens over the age of 35 and the recipient of the award is selected from nominations received.

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Record Crowd at Christmas Parade

Young and old saw Santa here Saturday afternoon of last week and observers say it was an even larger crowd that gathered for the annual parade and visit of the merry gentleman in the red coat and white whiskers than that which turned out here a year ago. Estimates placed the crowd this year at about 3,500, including a host of youngsters who received gifts of candy from Saint Nick.

County Votes for Marketing Quotas Cotton Next Year

Only Two Dissenting Ballots Cast in County in Tuesday's Referendum; 93 Per Cent Margin Seen

Washington County cotton growers went along with the rest of the State in the marketing quotas referendum held Tuesday of this week.

With 344 farmers eligible to cast ballots, the county vote was overwhelmingly in favor of quotas on the 1955 crop, 70 for to only two against. The two negative votes were cast at Creswell, along with 30 votes favoring the quotas for next year.

The two other polling places, Plymouth and Roper, failed to turn up a "no" vote. There were 22 votes cast at Plymouth and 18 at Roper.

The unofficial returns from 77 of the 79 counties in North Carolina involved in the referendum were reported at 30,959 in favor of quotas and 1,867 opposed.

Plymouth and Long Acre farmers voted at the Agriculture Building here, while voters from Pleasant Grove and Roper communities used the polling place at Knowles Grocery, Roper, and Cherry, Mt. Pleasant and Creswell farmers voted at C. N. Davenport Garage, Creswell.

Referendum committees serving for the day were Cyril Ange, J. C. Snell and Oliver Lucas, Plymouth; Roy C. Chesson and Wade Harrison, Roper; and C. N. Davenport, L. L. Davenport and D. H. Furlough, Creswell.

The vote in North Carolina will be added to those of other cotton states. Unless the quota issue carries overall by two-thirds majority, price supports of 90 per cent of parity will drop to only 50 per cent of parity. Preliminary returns from seven other participating states indicated a margin of 93 per cent in favor of the quotas.

The North Carolina vote fell far under the 50,616 ballots cast in a similar referendum a year ago.

Glee Club To Present Concert Here Sunday

The Plymouth High School Glee Club will be presented in concert at the high school auditorium Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Director Ed Taylor announces.

There will be a mixed chorus of 50 voices with Miss Beulah Cratch serving as pianist.

Several numbers appropriate to the season have been selected, it was said.

The public is invited.

given out between 2 and 3 o'clock, it was reported. Thos. F. Hopkins acted as master of ceremonies and a number of volunteers aided police in patrolling the crowd. Mr. Hopkins declared that the crowd was the most orderly ever for such an event here and that the kiddies lined up and filed past Santa in good order.

Christmas Carols were played alternately by bands from Plymouth High School and Washington County Union School, Roper.

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before the parade was disbanded and candy was distributed to the youngsters. The bands led the parade from the high school to Water Street, accompanied by Santa in a jeep.

The crowd on hand for the visit last year was estimated at about 3,000 persons but nearly 2,500 bags of candy were given out then.

Santa arrived in Plymouth somewhat earlier in the day this year than on previous visits.

Stores Open To 9 Every Night

Beginning Friday of this week, Plymouth stores will remain open each night until 9 o'clock through the remainder of the pre-Christmas shopping season. Stores will be closed Christmas Day and the Monday following, resuming their regular business hours Tuesday of next week at the usual time.

The majority of stores have remained open each Friday evening during the past two weeks for the convenience of late shoppers.

Draw 70 for Jury Duty Here During Court in January

Names of 40 County Citizens Listed for First Week and 30 for Second Week of Superior Court

Names of 70 county citizens to serve for jury duty at the January term of Washington County Superior Court were drawn here recently by the county commissioners. Forty were selected to serve for the first week of the two-week mixed term, and 30 for the second week.

The court will open here Monday, January 10.

Drawn for first week duty were 13 each from Plymouth and Scuppernon Townships, eight from Lees Mill Township and six from Skinnerville. The list for the second week includes names of nine persons from Scuppernon, eight from Plymouth, seven from Lees Mill and six from Skinnerville.

The list (first week): Plymouth Township—A. M. Kelly, Stewart L. West, Nellie Allen, James H. Clifton, David H. Bowen, Jessie L. Hardison, Mrs. Blanche Edens, David Williams, M. W. Jefferson, Chester Brewer, Elvin H. Furlough and W. H. Leary;

Skinnerville—Jessie J. Hassell, E. J. Barber, F. L. Everett, Robert S. Spruill, Raymond E. Patrick and Henry E. Clifton;

Lees Mill—Garland Gurganus, W. J. Vaughan, Hoyt LeFever, Michael Trueblood, Marvin H. Rose, Davnie Hollis, D. W. Chesson and W. D. Stoyons;

Scuppernon—Alton G. Furlough, Howard Odell Furlough.

See JURY, Page 5

Construction Gate Of Pulp Mill Still Is Being Picketed

No Results So Far From Series of Conferences; Organizer Says Agreement Has Been Violated

Pickets representing workers formerly employed by contractors engaged in construction work at the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company here were still on duty yesterday at the special construction work gate. However, spokesmen for several of the contracting firms said this week that sufficient workers had been employed and were crossing the picket lines to carry on all the projects presently underway.

Paul Askew, chairman of a special AFL organizing committee representing 10 building trade unions, said Tuesday that several meetings had been held with company and contractors' representatives, but nothing definite had been worked out. He was still hopeful that the difficulties could be solved satisfactorily.

Askew also said that the company had violated at least two of the agreements worked out on December 1, when pickets were removed from main gates of the plant and stationed only at the special construction gate. One of the violations charged was that materials for construction work were being received at the plant through gates other than the special one designated for that purpose. Another violation, he said, was using regular employees of the mill on work connected with construction.

The union spokesman said Tuesday that he was expecting a Mr. Glenn, of the law firm of Thatcher, Wall & Glenn, of Washington, D. C., to arrive in Plymouth Wednesday afternoon to advise with the unions involved concerning the construction dispute existing at the plant. Further developments, he indicated, would depend on the outcome of conferences with the attorney.

Operations in the mill itself have continued without incident since December 1, when pickets were removed from the main gates of the plant after the company agreed to require construction workers to use a special gate, located several hundred yards south of the main employees' entrance. A possible shutdown of the big plant was averted by the action, as some of the production workers were hesitant about crossing the picket lines, although none of them were directly affected by the dispute.

The dispute originated November 17, when spokesmen for the organizing committee said nearly 70 construction workers were discharged after they attended a meeting November 16 to discuss organizing. Contractors said the men were laid off when construction work was discontinued on November 17.

\$90 Raised for Memorial Fund

A total of \$90.32 was collected in Washington County Schools recently for the Sir Walter Raleigh Memorial Fund. The annual Sir Walter Raleigh Day was marked December 3.

The North Carolina General Assembly has authorized the State Superintendent of Public Instruction "to permit voluntary contributions to be made by the school children of the State in such amounts as they may desire to give" for erection of a memorial to Sir Walter Raleigh.

Each teacher had the privilege of presenting the matter to her pupils.

Collections, by schools, were reported as follows: Plymouth White School, \$68.22; Creswell White, \$10; Roper White, no report; Plymouth Colored, \$5; Washington County Union School, no report; Creswell Colored, \$7.10; total, \$90.32.

Christmas Cantata Set For Methodist Church

The Plymouth Methodist and combined choirs will present a cantata, "The Story of Christmas," by H. Alexander Matthews Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Methodist Church.

The solo parts will be taken by Miss Myrtle Gray Jackson, Mrs. W. H. Peele, Mrs. E. W. Furgerson and Zeb Vance Norman, jr. J. Shepherd Brinkley will serve as organist and director.

An offering will be taken for the benefit of the choir, it is announced.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

DISTRICT COLLECTION OF FOOD FOR CHURCH OF GOD ORPHANAGE



Five of the six ministers of the Church of God in the Elizabeth City district are pictured above in front of boxes of food collected by their church members to be sent to the denomination's orphanage at Kannapolis. There are 62 children in the orphanage, and the food collection in this district was said to have been very gratifying. Left to right in the photo above are the Rev. I. C. Morris, district overseer of Elizabeth City; the Rev. F. E. Evans, of Williamson; the Rev. James Briley, of Creswell; the Rev. James Ferguson, of Plymouth; and the Rev. Mitchell Evans, of Edenton. Not present when the picture was made was the Rev. Miss Lennora Jones of Ahoskie. —Photo by Weaver Studio.