Both local banks were repre-

sented at the meeting of Group One of the North Carolina Bank-

ers Association held in Washington Tuesday of this week. Registration was at the Louise Hotel, the business session was held at the county Agriculture Building, a special hour was held at the Washington Country Club in the afternoon and the banquet was at Washington High School at 7

p. m. Following the banquet dan-

cing was enjoyed at the country

club to complete events of the

day. W. Marvin Weaver and Gene

Ange, from Planters National

Bank and Trust Company, and J. W. Allen, jr., and Mr. and Mrs.

H. E. Beam, from Banch Banking

R. F. Lowry, county superintendent of schools, will leave Fri-

day morning of this week for St.

Louis, Missouri, where he will

attend the meeting of the Ameri-

can Association of School Admin-

istrators .The meeting opens Sat-

urday. Mr. Lowry plans to return to Plymouth Friday of next

Dr. A. L. Whitehurst, director

week discussing the air spotter

work here and mentioned the co-

incidence at the recent alert. Doc

said there were exactly 13 voun-

teers who reported for duty at

of the month, there were 13 planes and 13 reported. Incidentally, more volunteers are urgent-

ly needed by the local post and

anyone interested should contact

or Charles Gardner.

Whitehurst, Carl Bailey, jr.,

The springlike weather of the

past week, coming on the heels of

the almost unprecendentedly cold

spell of the past month or two,

has defrosted most of the creek

fishermen in the area, according

to reports. They have been breaking out their tackle and

traffic was said to be so heavy

on Conaby Creek the first of the

week that traffic cops were need-

ed to get around some of the

turns. A few made pretty good

catches, according to reports, but

most of them found all their fav-

orite "tops" occupied by fisher-

men from all over the eastern

In a recent letter to his folks

outh, while on a recent week-end

trip to Garmisch-Partenkirchen

Germany, a winter sports resort

the time but was supposed to be

heading back to the United

States this week. Jack has almost

Meet Held Monday

Six communities in the Was-

of the Plymouth Ground Observ er Post, was in the office this

& Trust Company, attended.

THE ROANOKE BEACON

VOLUME LXVI—NUMBER 8

Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, Thursday, February 24, 1955

ESTABLISHED 1889

HIGHWAY DISTRICT OFFICE AND EQUIPMENT SHOP NOW IN USE



Thursday of last week the office for Highway District 3 was moved from the old County Home building on Washington Street Ext. to the handsome new brick quarters pictured above. The new office building and equipment shop, recently completed, are located on US 64 by-pass on a five-acre site which was formerly a part of the Lucas farm. The overall dimensions of the shop are 40 by 96 feet and the office is 30 by 50 feet. The construction began early in September of last year with labor furnished by the Highway Bridge Department. Completion of the project was retarded by adverse weather.—Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

Rotary, Lions, Jaycees

Wyatte F. De Loache, an ex

perienced speaker on industrial

progress and chemical develop-

ments, will address a joint meet-

ing of three local organizations in

th Fellowship Hall of Plymouth

of next week, it was announced.

The speaker's visit is being

sponsored by Planters National

Bank and Trust Company and the

three organizations holding the

joint meeting will be Plymouth

Rotary Club, Lions Club and Jun-

The meeting will open at

cussion of some of the more re-

cent developments in chemical

how research and production have

and national security.

nical societies.

The James E. Jethro Post of the

Surprise Trustee

able cause was found and Cox was sent back to the prison camp

to continue serving his sentence and to await trial at the next

According to Sheriff J. K. Reid,

camp for sometime, was camp cook and also served as general

handy man around the house of

Cox saw the back porch light

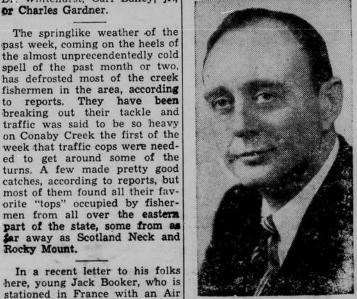
term of superior court here.

and give a behind-the-scene dis- er and praise.

ior Chamber of Commerce.

Civic Clubs To Hear World Church Day the rear seat of a car owned by Godwin Motor Company, of Creswell, for whom Starr worked as Talk by DuPont Man To Be Observed well, for whom Starr worked as a salesman. A .22 caliber automatic rifle was found in the front seat. the post, it was on the 13th day

SPEAKER NEXT WEEK



Force unit, said he had run into Leroy Singleton, also of Plym-Wyatte F. De Loache, south ern manager of the Extension Division of E. I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company, Inc., who will address a joint meet-ing of Plymouth Rotary, Lions in the Bavarian Alps. Young Singleton is in the Navy, with a unit that was based at Malta at and Jaycees at the Fellowship Hall of Plymouth Methodist Church Tuesday night of next

them much good when they rethey roless they go to a much Nurse Found Dead of human relations. Before joining the extension

son Drake and Estranged sively and made frequent appearances as a public speaker before Husband Discovered Mon-civic groups, industrial meetings day by Neighbor

marty District were represented The dead bodies of Mrs. Carrie Legion Post Meeting at a Boy Scout Roundtable meeting held Monday night of this Roberson Drake, former Plymweek at the Mayflower Restau- outh resident, and her estranged rant. V. B. Haire, of Jamesville, husband, E. B. Drake, were dis-district finance chairman, pre-covered by a neighbor Monday in

Plymouth March 18, 19 and 20 was Fla. discussed, as was last year's financial drive and the forthcoming suicide. The report stated that open at 8 p. m. appointment of finance officials Drake, after fatally slashing his wife's throat from ear to ear with urges a full attendance of the Dr. Alban Papineau, skipper a butcher knife, cut his own members. of the Plymouth Sea Scouts, invited the group to meet aboard and died a short time later. The the Albemarle in April and enjoy deaths came early Monday morn-

a cruise in the local Sea Scout ing, it was said. ship. The invitation was accepted. Mrs. Drake, a night superintendent at a Pensacola hospital, Communities represented were Williamston, Bear Grass, James-ville, Columbia, Creswell and had been separated from her husband for some time and it was reported that he had made his Cub Scout Pack 84, of Plymhome in Georgia following the outh, received an honor banner separation. There had reportedly for its selection as the best pack been trouble about a year ago. Mrs. Drake lived here for a Judge W. Ronald Gaylord on a cemetery. in the district, and Chet Brewer, of Plymouth, was given a tie time several years ago while she charge of entering a dwelling clasp for his outstanding efforts

See NURSE, Page 10

Obtain Good Results In Religious Census Cox had been a trustee at the camp for sometime, was camp

About 100 volunteer workers | were divided into pairs and they took part in the religious census called from house to house be- H. L. Harris, prison camp supconducted here Sunday by the tween the hours of 2 and 4 p. m. erintendent. Plymouth Ministerial Association, for the not-at-homes and 5 p. m. it is reported. The census was directed by the Rev. Jesse H. directed by the Rev. Jesse H. as the deadline to get information home. He also knew where to Good-sized crowds at

The town was covered except

At Local Church According to Craven Coroner R. Clyde Smith, who along with Wyatte De Loatche, Exten-

Friday of This Week

Methodist Church Tuesday night

sions, home and foreign. It was parently instantaneous. first observed in 1887 by some According to the coroner, the Presbyterian women. By 1919 undertaker who prepared the Mr. De Loache will demonstrate day in a common service of pray-

research as practiced by a large contributed to individual welfare Mr. De Loache, who is southern manager of the Extension Division of E. I. Du Pont de Nemours ion of E. I. Du Pont de Nemours ion of E. I. Du Pont de Nemours ion, meditation, penitence, inter-tion, meditation, penitence, interand Company, Inc., maintains headquarters in Memphis, Tenn. A native southerner and a form—the churches of the town. Mrs.

Ton Ton Ton the Felindar's tion, meditation, penitence, intercession, thanksgiving and dedication will be led by women from prints other than Starr's were 625.59.

On the foliable pocket.

Mrs. W. J. Weaver, president division in 1953, he was a plant of the council, extends a cordial colder and more hilly country than that around Plymouth.

In Florida Home personnel superintendent, a specialist in community relations, and this service. The church nursery a consultant on industrial jour- will be open for the convenience Scout Roundtable Bodies of Mrs. Carrie Rober- nalism. He has traveled exten- of mothers of young children who wish to attend the service.

Final Services for educational gatherings and tech-Former Resident Here on Friday Night

Ivan D. Pyshny, a former resicovered by a neighbor Monday in Mrs. Drake's apartment, 1102 American Legion will hold its the former Mabel Hardison, of The camporee to be held in North Palafox Street, Pensacola, regular meeting Friday night of Plymouth, died at his home at this week at the Veterans Club, it Elizabeth City Wednesday night The coroner ruled murder and is announced. The meeting will of last week following a long illness. He had been confined to Commander Ronald Waters his bed for eight weeks.

Mr. Pyshny was a native of Russia who came to this country as a young boy and lived here for some time. He had made his home at Elizabeth City for the past 23 years.

In Dwelling House He leaves his widow and one daughter, Joan, of the home. Services were conducted at the

Henry Cox, Negro prisoner who Toxey - Berry - Lynch Funeral Home, Elizabeth City, Friday at is serving time at the prison camp near Creswell for breaking and 2 p. m. by the Rev. Mr. Finlator entering, was given a preliminary entering, was given a preliminary hearing here Tuesday before Burial was in the Elizabeth City. with intent to steal money. Prob-

covered in Parked Car by Mrs. Starr; Evidence Indicates Suicide

Nothing had been learned here late Wednesday concerning deof the death at Havelock recently of a former county man, Walter Douglas Starr, 43.

A report last Saturday stated that Craven County authorities were probing for possible signs of foul play in the rifle death of the Creswell native whose decompos ing body was discovered in his parked automobile near his home at Havelock that day.

The body, obviously lifeless for several days, was discovered by Starr's wife. It was slumped in the rear seat of a car owned by

Sheriff Charlie Berry was sumsion Division Manager, to
Address Joint Meeting of Women Sponsoring Proword immediately following discovery of the body, Mrs. Starr stated that her husband left home gram at Baptist Church Wednesday night of last week with the announced intention of returning to his job at Creswell.

Friday she received a telephone Ludford Memorial Baptist call from the auto agency at Cres well asking information as to why Starr had failed to report annual World Day of Prayer obcall from the auto agency at Cresannual World Day of Prayer observance Friday of this week. The service is sponsored by the Plymouth Council of Church Women and will begin at 3:30 p. m.

The World Day of Prayer is a day set apart for prayer for missions between the fight temple and death was appraised to the service of the car Starr of the car which had been parked about a block away for some time. It proved to be the car Starr drove. The man had been shot in the right temple and death was appraised to the car which had been parked about a block away for some time. It

other groups had joined them in body for burial said it was imthe observance of the day, and possible to detect powder burns, it became a world day of prayer although it was possible that the in 1927. Christians around the condition of the wound when the

business organization, showing countries around the world. The edge of the back seat, leaned over program this year was written by Miss Jorgelina Lozada, of Buenos Aires, Argentina. The theme of the program is: "Abide in Me"— of the car but there was no money the program is: "Abide in Me"— of the car but there was no money the program is: "Abide in Me"— of the car but there was no money the program is to the front seat with the rifle and placed it against his temple. His wallet was found on the floor the program is: "Abide in Me"— of the car but there was no money the program is to the front seat with the rifle and placed it against his temple. The program is the program is to the front seat with the rifle and placed it against his temple. The program is to the front seat with the rifle and placed it against his temple. The program is the pro

upon mentioning the rifle to his ent of the nurses. father was warned to leave it

Mrs. Starr said her husband nesday night before leaving supposedly for Creswell. She stated that she reminded him that he had hospitalization.

See STARR, Page 10

Interest Goes Up **On Unpaid Taxes**

Taxpayers in the town are reminded that the rate of in-terest on unpaid 1954 taxes ad-vances 1 to 2 per cent after March 1, next Tuesday. The interest rate is fixed by State law, and local units do not have the right to waive the extra charge, according to the collectors.

Interest on delinquent taxes is fixed at 1 per cent during the month of February; 2 per cent during the month of March; and ½ of 1 per cent for each month thereafter until the tax sale is held. Property is supposed to be advertised in May and sold on the first Mon-

Band Realizes \$400 On Show Last Week

reported late yesterday but it was handle ticket sales, etc. expected that about \$400 would on at the Harris residence and musical revue, Club Top Hat, val this spring, it was said.

Proceeds from the entertain-

ment will be ear-marked for be cleared by the Plymouth Band transporting the high school band

The show was directed by Mrs. Lanning, minister of Plymouth cards in to Miss Lorena Snell, Methodist Church.

as the deadline to get information home. He also knew where to cards in to Miss Lorena Snell, find the key to the back door and it was stated.

Good-sized crowds attended the W. D. Walker, while Band Direct-showings Thursday and Friday or Ed Taylor headed the high doing so unlocked the door and sight at Plymouth W. D. Walker, while Band Direct-showings Thursday and Friday or Ed Taylor headed the high doing so unlocked the door and sight at Plymouth W. D. Walker, while Band Direct-showings Thursday and Friday or Ed Taylor headed the high doing so unlocked the door and sight at Plymouth W. D. Walker, while Band Direct-showings Thursday and Friday or Ed Taylor headed the high doing so unlocked the door and doing so unlo The group assembled at the Methodist Church at 1:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon where instructions were given. The workers of the several instructions were given. The workers of the several information which will be present the search about the house.

doing so, unlocked the door and walked in. The Harris family reduction can profit by the duditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in. The Harris family reduction can profit by the duditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in. The Harris family reduction can profit by the duditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in. The Harris family reduction can profit by the duditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in. The Harris family reduction can profit by the duditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in. The Harris family reduction can profit by the duditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in. The Harris family reduction can profit by the duditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in this production can profit by the duditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in this production can profit by the duditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in the suditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in the suditorium and the entertainment furnished and the suditorium and the entertainment furnished walked in the suditorium and the entertainment furnished and t

W. Douglas Starr Found Dead Last Week in Havelock For Red Cross Next Month

Body of Creswell Native Dis-



Miss Sandra Leggett (center) was crowned March of Dimes Queen at the annual ball climaxing the infantile paralysis campaign in this county Saturday before last. She is flanked by Miss Beulah A. Cratch (right) and Miss Ann Hardison (left), who were second and third, respectively, in the queen's contest. The three above accounted for more than \$200 of the \$412.77 raised by the 17 contestants for March of Dimes Queen. Miss Leggett was crowned by Miss Jo Hodbs, last year's queen.—Polaroid 1-Minute staff photo.

Figures Tell Growth Of County Hospital

Number of Patients Served Gradually Increases; Self-Supporting Since Soon After Opening

The Washington County Hosworld are united on this great day in a common service of prayer and praise.

In 1954 the day was observed in more than 19,000 communities in the United States and in 119 though he might have sat on the countries around the more date of the back seat leaned over pital, opened in May of 1950, has

The institution began to func-tion with \$5,000 out of the gen-

A native southerner and a form-er newspaperman, he has been w. D. Walker will be the organist one of the two Starr children assume the duties of business adanother year on his present tour of duty. He said they both were in beginners' classes in skiing, i

From its opening in 1950 until the end of the calendar year the complained of a sore throat Wed- hospital cared for 416 cases, 323 adults and 93 newborn babies according to records. At the end of the year, cash on hand totaled Assistant State Superintenct \$1.386.05.

During 1951 there were 1,011 ases, 812 adult and 199 newborn babies. Cash on hand at the end of the year amounted to \$551.20 The 1952 figures: 1,178 total

cases, 948 adult and 230 newborn babies. Cash on hand at end of year, \$2,452.76. Total cases in 1953 was 1,159, 932 adult and 227 newborn ba-

bies. Cash on hand at end of year, In 1954 the total cases jumped to 1.349, 1.054 adult and 295 new-

of year, \$6,625.59. See HOSPITAL, Page 5

Potato Growers Meeting Today

All county sweet potato grow ers are invited to attend a meetng on production practices to be held Thursday afternoon of this week at the Agriculture Building here, County Agent W. H. Pruden has announced.

H. M. Covington, extension hor College, Raleigh, will be in charge of the meeting. "He probably knows more about scientific sweet potato production than anyone in the state and has arranged All ticket sales had not been sor can be obtained there to an informative program for us, Mr. Pruden commented.

The following subjects will be covered during the afternoon: seed selection and treating; bed-Boosters from the local talent to the Wilmington Azalea Festi- ding, including electric hot beds; harvesting and curing.

"Our sweet potato acreage has increased every year for the last three. Farmers who are new in

Turkey School Dates Changed

County Agent W. H. Prucen this week called attention of county poultrymen to a change in date and nature of the poultry and tacker so the priginally slated to be her in Edenton Monday, March 7.

Mr. Pruden said date of the meeting has been changed to March 10 and will be for turke? producers only. The meeting will be held in the Chowan County Agriculture Building, beginning at 10 a. m. A fastmoving program, designed to stimulate efficient production, has been planned, Pruden

For Schools, Unit Meeting Is Told

ent of Public Instruction Addresses County NCEA Unit Here Monday

Fifty million dollars more is needed during the next biennium to maintain school services at the mittee on Salaries and Fees. present level in this state, J. E. The bill, known as House Bill Miller told the dinner meeting 253, would "fix certain fees of of the Washington County unit of the register of deeds of Wash-North Carolina Education Association here Monday night. oorn babies. Cash on hand at end

Mr. Miller, who is assistant state superintendent of public instruction, spoke on the subject, "Education and Current Legisla-

The banquet meeting was held at Plymouth High School and a three-course Smithfield Ham dinner was enjoyed. Entertainment included a piano solo by Miss Beulah Cratch and a vocal solo by Miss Gail Harrison. The speaker reminded his

audience that Dr. Charles F. Car-See SCHOOLS, Page 10

One - Week Campaign in County To Start Either First or Second Week in March, Whitehurst Says

Present plans call for whirlwind campaign early in March in an effort to secure Washington County's quota in the annual Red Cross Fund Drive, Dr. A. L. Whitehurst said today. Dr. Whitehurst is chairman of the county chapter of the American Red

A meeting to plan the campaign was held at the courthouse here Tuesday night of this week with Dr. Whitehurst presiding. Several county organizations were represented but the attendance was ra-

ther disappointing, it was said. No definite dates for the drive were selected at the meeting but it was decided to hold a oneweek campaign for funds, beginning either the first or second week in March

Tom Hampton represented the Creswell Ruritan Club, Hilton Chesson the Lake Phelps post of the American Legion, Bryan Harris the Roper Ruritan Club, Vic Alexander and Bill Porter the Plymouth Junior Chamber of Commerce, and Post Commander Ronald Waters of the James E. Jethro Post of the American Legion. Mrs. Frances Jones, executive secretary of the county chap-

ter, was also present.
Vic Alexander was named fund chairman for the Plymouth area. It was also announced that the principals of the colored schools at Plymouth, Roper and Creswell would head up the drive among the colored population in their respective communities.

Creswell Ruritans will hold a meeting Monday of next week, Dr. Whitehurst said, at which time they will decide whether or not to accept sponsorship of the campaign in that area, and if not, will name someone as chairman of the effort. Roper Ruritans will meet Thursday night for the same purpose, it was stated.

Many interesting facts about the various programs of service of the Red Cross were broads out. For instance, during 1953-54, \$11,778,600 was spent in financial assistance to servicemen and dependents. Another \$799,-300 went as financial assistance to veterans and surviving dependents. A total of 109,000 servicemen was helped each month at military installations and hospitals; and 213,000 families were served each month by chapter nome service.

Figures were given on the blood program as follows: donations of blood for the year 1953-54, 2,896,400; for civilian use, 1,-811,900; for national defense, 1,-

See RED CROSS, Page 10

Bill by Phelps Would Set Fees

A bill introduced in the House last Wednesday by Representa-tive J. M. Phelps, of Creswell, to fix certain fees of the register to take care of an increase of of deeds and clerk of court in this 37,000 new students each year and county was referred to the Com-

The bill, known as House Bill ington County for recording maps and chattel mortgages and to also fix the probate fee of the clerk of superior court of Washington County for chattel mortgages.' The bill would set fees for photostatic copy of map, at \$4, \$1 for recording map and 75 cents for registering regular chattel mortgage form. The fee for probating the regular chattel mortgage form by the clerk of court would be established at 25 cents.

The Washington County Board of Commissioners, in regular monthly session here February 7, requested introduction of the bill by the county representative.

Numbering Houses To Start Next Week

The Jaycees' house-numbering | ior Chamber of Commerce. Pur-

at a recent meeting, authorized Apartment houses or duplexes spacing, cultivation, fertilization, the Jaycees to carry out the pro- will carry only one number, it

Ralph Hunter.

project is scheduled to start next pose of the project is to get a week.
The Plymouth Town Council, street numbering in the town. was said, and letters will be used Serving on the committee with Swain are Doug Gurkin and ments. The cooperation of all cititalph Hunter. zens is urged. Swain explained
The plan calls for luminous that the Jaycees do not feel able numerals that can be seen easily night or day to be sold to house-holders by members of the Jun-lually.