

J. S. Fleming, hard-working principal of Plymouth High School, is taking a well-deserved two-week vacation, along with his family. But the genial school man, who has kept his office open a good part of the summer for the convenience of patrons and in the interest of the coming session's school program, wants it known that the office will be reopened on Thursday, August 18, well in advance of the opening of school for the 1955-56 year. Incidentally, the faculty vacancy caused by the resignation of Edward Taylor, band leader and music director, remains unfilled. In a recent letter to the chairman of the local school committee Mr. Fleming stated that he was "doing everything possible in an honorable way" to obtain a replacement for Taylor who has accepted a like position at Clinton.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Humphreys and daughter have been touring in the northern part of the United States and Canada. According to a card mailed from Stoney Creek in Canada last Saturday, the weather was very cool there and they wanted to know how it was in Plymouth. Some of their friends probably will tell them when they get back. The Humphreys were headed for Niagara Falls when they wrote the card.

Mrs. Irva Hooker, Mrs. Jasper Swain, Mrs. Joe Nowarah, sr., Misses Alma Knowles and Aileen Peacock and Mrs. Beulah Gaylord returned to Roper Wednesday of last week from a four-day, 1135-mile vacation trip to western North Carolina. Mrs. Gaylord, the driver, reports a wonderful trip that actually extended as far west as Gatlinburg, Tenn. The ladies saw practically all the sights in the Carolina hill country including Lake Junaluska, Wiseman's View, Linville Caverns and Linville Falls, Blowing Rock, Mt. Mitchell, Grandfather's Mountain, Yadinville, Asheville, Boone, Cherokee, Soco Gap—said to be the most photographed spot in the state, Newfound Gap, and several other spots of interest. The ladies shivered in their coats on Mt. Mitchell, it was said. (When the news gets around a general exodus may develop if the present heat keeps up, it is thought) The party saw the pageant, "Unto These Hills," at Cherokee. Also, on the return trip Mrs. Gaylord visited New Salem in Union County where she first taught home economics 13 years ago and found one of her first students the present home ec teacher there.

The "Friends" of Luther Nobles, popular local restaurateur, have been razing him unmercifully over a little incident in Luther's "steak emporium" Thursday evening of last week. Dr. Vernon Jeter, newly associated at the Plymouth Clinic, paid Luther's establishment a visit and was immediately "besieged" by the latter who, at great pains, pointed out the superior merits of his eatery, particularly as to "the juiciest, tenderest steaks in this part of the country." Luther closed his eloquent oration

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Education Board Will Meet Later

The Washington County Board of Education did not hold its customary "first Monday" session here this week but expects to meet later in the month when a greater amount of business is anticipated, according to R. F. Lowry, who serves as secretary to the board.

At its meeting later this month the board is expected to formally approve contracts of teachers secured to fill vacancies existing in faculties of three county schools, Mr. Lowry explained. At present, there are four vacancies at two county white schools, two at Plymouth and two at Roper, it was said. A library vacancy is to be filled at Washington County Union School, Roper.

GROUP FROM COUNTY ATTENDS STATE 4-H CLUB MEETING IN RALEIGH



Ten Washington County 4-H club members, accompanied by County Agent W. H. Pruden and Miss Sara Giles, of Fayetteville, a senior at East Carolina who is in training as a home demonstration agent in the county during the summer, attended the state 4-H club meeting at State College in Raleigh last week. They are pictured above on the steps at the agriculture building here last Monday week shortly before leaving. Those in the front two rows are, left to right: Miss Giles, Daphne Snell of Roper, Mary Margaret Atamanchuk of Plymouth, Helen Manning of Plymouth, Madeline Patrick of Creswell, Rachel Peele of Plymouth, Dianne Gaylord of Roper and Mrs. Pruden. The four boys in the back are Mitchell Armstrong of Roper, Wayne Mobley, Henry Turner and Larry Hopkins, all of Plymouth.—Staff photo.

Warns Hog Growers To Watch for Disease

County Agent W. H. Pruden mailed letters to hog growers this week in which he listed six points for combatting the spread of disease among swine in the county. Disease, as yet undetermined, has hit hogs on scattered farms from Pea Ridge to Jamesville and in Tyrrell, Hyde and Beaufort County "to my knowledge," the county agent said. Bryan Harris, of Roper, carried sick hogs from several farms to Raleigh this week for a check to be made at the diagnostic laboratory, Pruden stated. Two lots of fattening hogs at the Tidewater

Court Cases in Rut; Many 13's

If Recorder W. Ronald Gaylord and Solicitor W. Blount Rodman feel they are in a rut it can be understood. Tuesday for the fourth week in a row exactly 13 cases were heard at the regular session of the county tribunal. It could be some sort of record. Judge Gaylord could possibly be just a wee bit superstitious, too, because when he was reminded late Tuesday afternoon that 13 cases was again the total he remarked, "We'll have to do something about that."

County Agents at Edenton District Conference Today

County Agent W. H. Pruden and Mrs. Frances M. Darden, home agent, are in Edenton today attending the Eastern District County Agents Conference. The morning session is to be devoted to material designed to keep agents informed and there are separate sessions scheduled for home agents and county agents. The feeder calf sales and the beef cattle program will come in for discussion at the county agent's panel.

First of Prefab Houses Nearing Completion Here

Spokesman Says Three-Bedroom House Coming Off Assembly Line To Be in \$7,000 Bracket, Is Hoped

The first of the 3-bedroom houses to come off Plymouth's new prefabrication assembly line is now set up and nearing completion at Davis Landing approximately a mile east of Turnpike, according to John Petter, architect and designer. Petter arrived in North Carolina to start the operation on June 6. Many people from Plymouth and the surrounding areas have visited both the production plant on West Route 64 and the first house site at the corner of Coulbourn and Pats Roads in Hyde County. "We're glad to have anyone who is interested come and see what we're doing," Petter said. "We hope to have this first house completed, including well and septic tank, plumbing, bathroom fixtures, wiring and electric hook-up, within the next few weeks." Many of the unique details are more apparent during construction than they will be once the house is completed. The use of panels fabricated at the plant to reduce high on-site construction costs, is one of the factors that will keep the sale price of the house down near the \$7,000 figure. "No one has managed to build a house of this size and quality for anything like this price," Petter pointed out, "but it looks now as if we are going to be able to come very close to it." The extraordinary sturdiness of Petter's patented method of bolting a cantilevered floor onto concrete piers has already been demonstrated last year at Ocean City, Maryland. While conventionally built houses along the same beach front were damaged or unroofed, Petter's house came through Hurricane Hazel intact and in place. Gates have been erected by the Dwight Corporation at the road leading to the new house site and

Bring Back Good Report From 4-H Club Week Event

Pruden Declares Club Boys and Girls Are "Actually Doing Part of Our Extension Work"

Ten county 4-H Club members and their sponsors attended State 4-H Club Week at State College last week and three took part in two contests during the week. Helen Manning of the Plymouth club was in the top 30 out of 85 entries in the dress revue contest, while Wayne Mobley of the Plymouth club and Daphne Snell of the Roper club represented the county as health king and queen, respectively. Also, the county clubs were honored when Diane Gaylord of Roper was chosen to serve as an usher at the Thursday morning assembly. Those who attended were: Mary Margaret Atamanchuk, Rachel Peele, Helen Manning, Wayne Mobley, Larry Hopkins and Henry Turner of the Plymouth club; Daphne Snell, Diane Gaylord and Mitchell Armstrong of the Roper club; Madeline Patrick, of the

Research Station were also said to be sick this week, while sows just across the farm road from them were all right. It was learned unofficially that some \$15,000 worth of hogs were lost in Beaufort County last week. The agent here listed the following do's and don't's: 1. Do not visit anyone's hog lot; 2. Do not allow anyone to visit your hog lot; 3. Do not buy hogs from another farm; 4. Feed a balanced ration; 5. Keep hogs cool by supplying shade and wallows; and 6. Use the best management practice you can.

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Commissioners in Routine But Busy Meet Here Monday

County Body Hears Usual Reports, Picks Jurors for September Court Term, Hears Delegation

The county commissioners held a rather routine, though busy meeting here Monday. Business transacted included approval of a road petition, the hearing of the usual reports, drawing of jurors for the September criminal term of superior court here, and the hearing of a property tax assessment complaint by a Plymouth taxpayer.

W. E. Waters appeared to renew his request for an adjustment of the tax valuation placed on his home but was reminded by the commissioners that since the board of equalization and review had adjourned the case could not be reopened. The clerk was instructed to write to J. Emmett Winslow, highway district chairman, to find out when the county might expect additional funds to be made available for hardsurfing certain roads in the county, especially the project designated No. 1, known as the Holly Neck Road. It was brought out at the meeting that on the strength of the road's designation as No. 1 project in the county for hardsurfing that C. S. Swain, who lives on the road in question, invested in a dairy. A large concern in this part of the state which handles dairy products has been transporting bulk milk from Swain's dairy, the board was told by a delegation which appeared Monday. It is understood that the milk company will discontinue use of trailer and truck because a bridge on the Holly Neck Road is not sufficient to use. Jurors were drawn for the criminal term of Washington County Superior Court scheduled to open at Plymouth Monday, September 1, with Judge Malcolm Paul, of Washington, presiding. A petition was approved to be forwarded to the highway department to either sand and clay or black top a road in Skinnerville township which runs from the foot of the Sound bridge to the black top road, the road being 1 1/2 miles in length. Since the first Monday in September falls on Labor Day it was decided to have the regular monthly meeting on Monday, September 12. E. J. Spruill reported \$6,003.30

Lot of Discussion But Little Action At Council Meet

Members of the Plymouth Town Council remained in session for about an hour at their regular August meeting Monday night, discussing a wide variety of matters, but action was taken on only a couple. Mayor A. J. Riddle presided and five of the six council members were present, as follows: E. D. Keel, first ward; Ralph Hunter and Jack B. Latham, second ward; J. D. Mallory and C. B. Holliday third ward. One of the first things disposed of was passing an order by unanimous vote which would restrict use of police cars for official business only. Some of the councilmen said they had heard criticism about members of the police department using the car for private purposes; and the order was passed, on motion of Councilman Hunter, to eliminate the possibility of the town becoming liable in case of an accident when the car was not being used for official business. Councilmen decided to replace the old 1946 truck used by the town and which has about seen its best days. They will receive bids for a new two-ton short wheelbase truck at their September meeting. It was announced that specifications would be sent to local dealers within the next week or so, and they will be invited to submit sealed bids, which will be opened and considered on September 12. It was announced the September meeting would be held on the second Monday night, September 12, instead of September 5, due to the Labor Day holiday. Councilman Mallory asked that an estimate be secured of the cost of providing a sidewalk on Wilson Street out as far as Arrants' Garage. He pointed out that pedestrians are forced to walk in the street at present, a very dangerous practice, especially to school children residing in the Little Richwood area, who must make the trip twice daily when school is in session. He also suggested a similar survey for East Main Street out as far as the Stillacres subdivision. Mallory stated he knew the town didn't have funds to provide the sidewalks during the current fiscal year, but said he would like to see

Few From County At Soil Meeting

Several county persons are attending the regular quarterly meeting of the Pamlico Soil Conservation District supervisory board today (Thursday) at Swan Quarter. Among them are C. S. Heynen, of Wenoona, chairman of the Washington County board of supervisors who also serves as official delegate on the district board; Joe Snell of Plymouth and J. A. Morris, of Creswell, members of the county supervisory board; Henry Bragg and Ed Craft, of the local SCS office; W. Willis Bowen, county FHA supervisor; County Agent W. H. Pruden; and E. H. Liverman, of Plymouth. Allen Swindell, of Beaufort County, is chairman of the Pamlico District supervisory board and is also president of the state association. Morning and afternoon sessions are scheduled in the Hyde County Agriculture Building.

Church Women To Sponsor Exhibit Here on Tuesday

Missionary Books To Be Available to All Sunday School Teachers, Youth Workers, Etc.

The United Church Women of Plymouth, affiliated with the National Council of Churches, are making an exhibit of interdenominational missionary books which include plays, pageants, etc., it was announced today by Mrs. W. J. Weaver, president of the local group. The two themes for the year, one for each of two six-month periods, were listed by Mrs. Weaver as "Indian Americans" and "The Christian Mission in a Revolutionary World." The exhibit will be shown Tuesday of next week at the First Christian Church Annex on Washington Street, between the hours of 3 and 5 in the afternoon and from 8 until 9 that night, the announcement stated. Sunday School teachers, program chairmen, youth workers and others interested in religious progress will have an opportunity to look over the missionary books before ordering from their respective book headquarters, Mrs. Weaver pointed out.

Revaluation Challenged By Property Owner Here

Observer Posts To Be On Duty Again Sunday

A 12-hour alert, from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. and officially known as "Skytrain VI" will affect Ground Observer Corps posts at Plymouth and Roper Sunday, along with 220 posts in 57 counties of the state. Both Dr. A. L. Whitehurst and Jesse Rawls, post supervisors at Plymouth and Roper, respectively, plan to use as many inexperienced volunteer observers as possible in order to further train their limited staffs. Both posts have repeatedly stated the need of more observers. Post strength currently at Plymouth is about 70, including 22 high school students and 10 ladies, while at Roper the number is around 60 or so. Both posts report no balloons spotted thus far in the "balloon alert" which continues through August 31. At Plymouth Dr. Whitehurst requests that any post member sighting aircraft, balloons, etc., while off-duty call 327-6 to report same immediately. Also, those who would like to become observers should contact Whitehurst, Carl Bailey, jr., or Charles Gardner.

122 Given Salk Doses Friday

Second doses of Salk anti-polio vaccine were administered at the county health department here last Friday to 122 first and second graders, eight of whom were colored and the remaining ones white. Shots for white children were given between the hours of 9 and 11 a. m., while the hours for colored were from 1 to 2 p. m. Reports from the department stated that there were 77 white children and 95 colored who received first shots some months ago but who did not come back for second shots. It is thought that some of these did not learn of the schedule in time. A health department spokesman stated late yesterday that any of such who would like to have the second shots in the series may appear at the health department between 1 and 3 p. m. Tuesday of next week.

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However, at the first meeting of the county commissioners as a board of equalization and review Monday, March 21, less than 40 property owners in the county showed up. Between 30 and 40 appeals from valuation assessed in the revaluing project were recorded at that time. Many property owners who first felt that they had cause for complaint accepted the open invitation to visit the tax department and discuss their problems with Mr. Byrd. Following these discussions, many differences were resolved and the dissatisfaction was dissipated to a large degree. The complaint registered by Mr. Waters Monday was the first definite sign of discontent over the new assessments in some time, it was said.

Silent Salesmen' Really Busy Door-to-Door Here

The "silent salesmen" have hit this community! Plymouth Postmaster J. Corbett Swain said that 96 pouches containing 20 catalogs each from two large mail order houses were recently handled by the local office. That adds up to a total of 1,920 catalogs. That's a lot of paper, a lot of pictures, a lot of inducement.

W. E. Waters Renews Request for Valuation Adjustment; Says Law Not Properly Carried Out

That there is still some discontent over the property revaluation in this county was demonstrated here Monday when a taxpayer appeared before the regular monthly meeting of the county commissioners with a complaint. W. E. Waters, of Roanoke Avenue, Plymouth, asked that his previous request for adjustment of tax value put on his home by R. M. Byrd, jr., be reconsidered. Mr. Byrd did the revaluing work in the county which was completed some months ago. Mr. Waters was informed that the commissioners did not feel that his property was out of line with other property of like nature. It was also pointed out that the board of equalization and review which normally concerns itself with such cases had adjourned and that the commissioners could not reopen his case.

Mr. Waters read a letter signed by him and addressed to the chairman of the board stating that on April 21, 1955, he, Waters, had submitted the information for the benefit of the board in considering his request for adjustment of the tax value applied by Mr. Byrd.

The complainant also said that in examining the special statutes, the machinery act and the minutes of the commissioners' meetings, certain lawyers discovered that the state law regulating the procedure for revaluing property had not been carried out properly.

The letter stated, "It is our opinion, therefore, that there does not now exist any legal basis for the use of a new valuation for 1955."

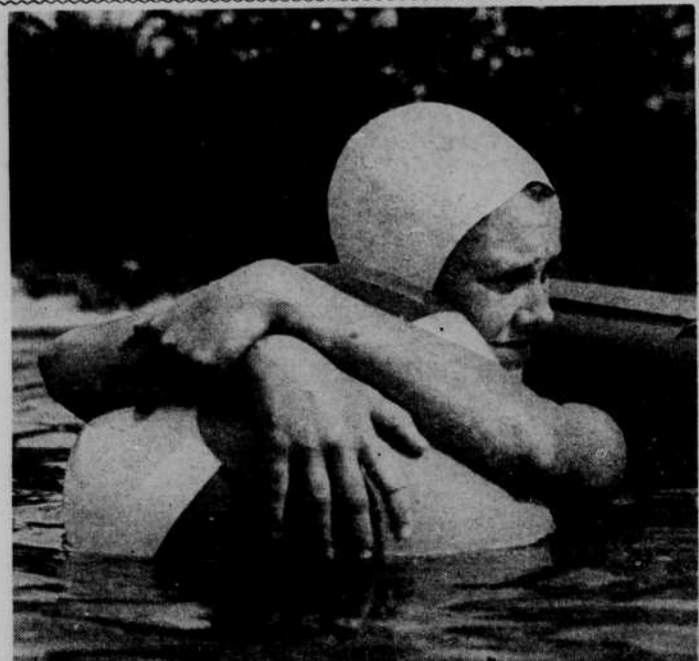
The taxpayer averred that he would pay the assessment under protest and start suit to recover.

Right after the notices of assessment were mailed last March about fifty taxpayers appeared at the office of the Washington County Tax Department to make complaints and it was stated at that time that the notices of new valuations had caused as much talk probably as anything to happen in the county in a long while.

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BEATING THE HEAT! Keeping cool, or a reasonable facsimile thereof, has been a full-time occupation for most people in this section during the spell of hot weather we have been having for the past couple of weeks. Jewel Hardison, Plymouth photographer, was down at Albemarle Beach a few days ago and took these shots of youngsters of the area trying various methods of beating the heat. The first photo shows Jane Crofton of Plymouth keeping cool by just floating around on a ball; while in the next A. J. Riddle, jr., of Plymouth and Phyllis Gaines of Jamesville were "airing out" in a motor boat. Then, too, some just want to stand on their heads on the bottom, as does the unidentified girl in the third photo; while those few who can take to a pair of water skis as Ken Trowbridge of Plymouth is shown doing in the final panel.—(All photos by Jewel Hardison.)