

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Bowen and son, Johnny, of Manila, P. I., arrived here last week for their triennial vacation with relatives and friends in their native section.

A2/c Robert H. Gurganus, jr., is spending several weeks here with his parents after returning from more than a year with the Air Force Far East Command.

Dr. A. L. Whitehurst was host to and presided over a meeting of the North Carolina Chiropractic Research Society at his office Sunday at 2 p. m.

The Beacon hereby tenders its most abject apologies to little Miss Mary Elizabeth Dinkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Dinkins.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Allen, jr., were among a number of business and professional persons from North Carolina and Virginia who were guests last Saturday of the National Bank of Commerce, Norfolk, Va., at a luncheon at Norfolk Yacht and Country Club and at the ninth annual Oyster Bowl football game at Foreman Field, Norfolk.

Miss Harriet Linnie Keyes, of Plymouth, is one of 176 Duke University Women's College students who have been pledged by the 13 national social sororities at Duke.

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Commissioners Approve Application for Aid Through Surplus Food Commodities Government Program

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Under the plan, each member of the welfare board will act as chairman in his respective community, it was explained, and the chairman will ask for four volunteers to serve on a local board which will decide on eligibility of persons applying for commodities.

Creswell Homemakers Hold Regular Meeting Thursday

Old and new business was transacted at the regular meeting of the Creswell chapter, Future Homemakers of America, held Thursday.

OFFICERS OF PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL BAND



Officers of the Plymouth High School Band for the current school year are pictured above as follows: Front row, left to right: Lynn Magee, president; Linda Lipscombe, vice president; Nancy Jackson, reporter. Back row: Ronnie Matheny, secretary and treasurer; Steve Hopkins, reporter.—Staff photo.

Street Paving Topic At Council Meeting

Air Observers Alert Sunday

Dr. A. L. Whitehurst and Jesse Rawls, supervisors respectively of the Plymouth and Roper Ground Observer Corps posts, report a successful alert last Sunday.

There were 19 volunteer observers participating at Plymouth and 29 at Roper, with 19 calls turned in by the Plymouth observers and 15 at Roper.

Board Here Lists Five Delinquents

Selective Service Board No. 95 here lists five men as delinquent, with a sixth having delinquent charges removed when it was shown that he had not been receiving his mail through no fault of his own.

The latter was listed as Gurtha R. Barrow, who had failed to return his questionnaire.

The five registrants listed on the delinquent sheet had either failed to report for examination, for pre-induction, or to return questionnaire.

Entrance Walkways Poured Monday at Local Hospital

Cement walkways leading from the parking area to the front entrances, white and colored, at Washington County Hospital were poured Monday of this week.

Harvest of Soybeans, Peanuts Progressing

It is believed that Washington County tobacco farmers have already marketed practically all of the 1955 crop. The smaller markets are closing down this week, with the large markets such as Greenville and Wilson to remain open awhile longer to take care of the remainder of the crop now in the farmers' hands.

Respected County Official Passes; Buried This Week

Luther L. Basnight, 70, Dies At Washington County Hospital Following Long Illness

Deputy Sheriff Luther L. Basnight, 70, of Plymouth, died at Washington County Hospital Sunday at 5:30 p. m. after an illness of six weeks.

He was a native of the county, born February 4, 1885, son of the late Joseph B. and Nancy Oliver Basnight of this county. He had made his home at Plymouth for 30 years, moving here from Creswell.

Mr. Basnight was well-known throughout the county and was held in high esteem. The floral offerings at the funeral were beautiful and profuse.

He was an unusually active man for his years and was busy with his duties until taken ill six weeks ago.

Mr. Basnight was first married to Miss Carmelita Barnes in January 1902 and she died August 9, 1952. On December 11, 1953, he was married to Mrs. Hilda Gurganus, of Plymouth, who survives.

Other survivors include four daughters, Mrs. Ray Spruill and Mrs. Paul E. Sawyer, both of Norfolk, Va., Mrs. Tom Freeman and Miss Evelyn Basnight, both of Plymouth; five sons, M. L. Basnight, of Columbia, Eugene Basnight, of Roper, Paul, Calvin and Ralph Basnight, all of Plymouth; a brother, J. W. Basnight, of St. Brides, Va.; 30 grandchildren and 23-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held from First Christian Church, Plymouth, of which he was a member. Tuesday at 3 p. m. His pastor, Rev. C. N. Barnette, officiated. Burial was in Windley Cemetery. The remains were left at Horner's Funeral Home until one hour prior to the service.

Distillers Are Hit Hard Blow During Last Month Here

Six Stills Seized by Raiding Officers Much Equipment Confiscated, Several Men Apprehended

Six stills, a quantity of mash, whiskey and sundry equipment were confiscated and several persons were apprehended in raids conducted by Chief ABC Officer Robert Sawyer, of Roper, other county and ATU officers during October.

A detailed report submitted by Sawyer to the ABC board shows that 2,800 gallons of mash were confiscated, along with 11 1/2 gallons of whiskey, nine worms, 11 more streets will be surfaced, than would be the case if a private contractor was secured.

On motion of Councilman Hunter, a three-way traffic signal is to be purchased and installed at the intersection of Washington and Water Streets, in front of the city market building. Stop signs are also to be erected at the Water and Jefferson and Water and Adams Street intersections.

Newman Allen asked the council to consider relieving him of taxes on some swampland located back of the "Sand Hill" along Welch's Creek. He said it had just been determined that this property was located inside the city limits, and he contended it had no potential value as part of the town. He was informed the council had no power.

Former Local Pastor Conducting Seminars

The Rev. D. L. Fouts, former pastor of Plymouth Methodist Church who is now serving as pastor of First Methodist Church, Mount Olive, is conducting seminars on the circuit there this week, according to an announcement from the Rev. Paul Maness, circuit pastor.

The first of the seminars was held at Rones Chapel Church Tuesday night while Thursday night the second will be held at Smith Chapel Church.

No Program Here for Veterans' Day

Friday of this week, which is Veterans Day, will not be observed here with any formal program, it was learned from spokesmen for the local veterans' organizations.

Last year the first Veterans Day observance (newly changed from Armistice Day) featured a brief address by the Rev. E. M. Spruill, a parade of veterans units led by the Plymouth High School band

Education Board Passes on Minor Matters Monday

Authorizes Use of Addition At Plymouth Elementary School; Approves Contract; Grants Easement

At its meeting here Monday of this week the Washington County Board of Education authorized that the new addition to the Plymouth Elementary School be occupied at once. Except for the installation of sinks and a few other minor jobs the building has been completed.

The contract of Mrs. Fannie A. Mills to teach in the elementary department of the Creswell School during the 1955-56 school term was approved.

The board also approved the granting of an easement conveying to the Virginia Electric and Power Company the necessary right-of-way for an electric line proposed to serve the athletic field at the Washington County Union School, Roper.

J. W. Norman and Mrs. K. S. Trowbridge, of Plymouth, were designated as delegates to the State School Board Association meeting at Chapel Hill on Wednesday of next week.

All members of the board were present for the meeting as follows:

L. E. Hassell, sr., of Roper, chairman; J. W. Norman and Mrs. K. S. Trowbridge, Plymouth; P. B. Belange, Creswell; and J. W. Swain, Roper.

Plan To Observe Book Week Here

The Washington County Public Library will feature special displays during National Book Week which will be observed next week, it is announced. The event will be observed throughout the nation.

Regular patrons and those who do not frequent the library are urged to visit the library especially during Book Week. The librarian, Mrs. C. E. Ayers, will gladly explain the services the library can render.

Also, those who are not habitual readers are invited to register, take out a book, and see how much pleasure reading will give.

"Become acquainted with your library," it is urged.

Circulation Figures for New Bookmobile Runs Released

Figures for the regular bookmobile runs in this county last week were released today by Mrs. Eugenia Babylon, director of the Pettigrew Library Region.

The circulation for the colored totaled 634 for the three days, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Tuesday was high with 373, while Monday showed 130 and Thursday 131.

MEMBERS OF "THE PANTHER" STAFF AT PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL



Members of the staff of "The Panther," Plymouth High School student newspaper, for the current school year are pictured above. They are, left to right: Nancy Jackson, assistant editor and business manager; Mike Estep, sports editor; Betty Davenport, society editor; Marguerite Latham, staff typist; Mable Hardison, news editor; Gail Lewis, staff typist; Jessie Harrison, editor in chief; Betsy Barnhill, art editor; Lynn Magee, humor editor; Betty Ann Burnham, business manager; Janice Johnson, assistant feature editor; Gail Gaylor, assistant news editor; Carol June Windom, feature editor. Not present when the photo was made were Billy Harden, assistant sports editor, and Mrs. Margie Lucas, faculty sponsor. The first issue of "The Panthers" is due to be distributed next week.—Staff photo.

Record Crowd Here For Special Service

Largest Homecoming Crowd In History of First Christian Church Here Sunday; Ross Allen Speaks

The largest homecoming crowd in the history of the church was here Sunday for the morning worship service in First Christian Church and remained for the memorial service and cornerstone laying at the new church plant on East Main Street in the afternoon.

The sermon at the homecoming service held in the church on the corner of Main and Washington Streets Sunday morning was delivered by the pastor, the Rev. C. N. Barnette to a capacity audience.

A picnic lunch was served in the Social Hall of the new plant at 12:30 o'clock. At 2:15 p. m. a program of music preceded the memorial service and cornerstone rites. After a hymn and the invocation, the Rev. Mr. Barnette introduced Ross J. Allen, of Wilson, secretary of the North Carolina Missionary Society, who spoke on the significance of cornerstones.

Following the message the choir rendered special music while the opportunity was extended to anyone in the audience so desiring to make memorial gifts at that time. Many responded.

The audience was then dismissed and gathered outside the building for the cornerstone laying. The session closed with a prayer and the singing of the doxology.

The new church plant, a handsome sprawling brick structure, is rapidly taking shape. When completed it probably will be valued at more than \$250,000.

Many ministers of the town and section, former pastors of the church, former members and friends were in the huge crowd which attended the Sunday services.

Among the visitors were some who had not returned to Plymouth in 40 years, it was said, and other states represented included Virginia, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Georgia and possibly others. Some were present from as far away as The Philippines.

Garden Club at Rocky Mount Slates Program

Local Garden Club devotees will be interested to know that the Rocky Mount Garden Club will have its annual program on "Christmas Decorations" at the Ricks Hotel on Friday morning, November 18, from 10 to 12 o'clock. Admission charge for guests will be 75 cents, it was said.

Mrs. R. O. Caviness, of Raleigh, will have charge of this program. She will bring many decorations to show and will make others as she lectures.

This meeting is open to all who are interested.

Commissioners in Routine Meeting Here on Monday

Request Reports From County Hospital; Surplus Commodities Will Be Made Available Here

Washington County Hospital will be asked to provide the board of county commissioners with a financial report of the operation of the hospital during this year as well as a summary report of the financial condition from the institution's beginning through December 31 of this year.

The commissioners voted Monday at the regular monthly session to make request that the board be furnished the two reports by the first Monday in January.

Other matters taken up at the session included naming of two trustees on the hospital board, routine reports and several road petitions.

Leroy Ange, of Plymouth, was named to the hospital board of trustees for a five-year term to begin December 1 and expire November 30, 1960, replacing Mrs. Frances M. Darden, of Plymouth, whose term expired this month and who did not seek reappointment.

A. R. Latham, of Plymouth, whose term on the board also expires this month, was reappointed for a term of five years, also to expire November 30, 1960.

Mrs. Ursula Spruill, county superintendent of public welfare, appeared before the board and stated that she had been informed by J. P. Davis, of Raleigh, agent in charge of surplus commodities government program, that this county was listed for Hurricane Disaster aid and would be entitled to receive certain commodities. The board agreed for application to be made for such through the proper channels.

E. J. Spruill, county tax collector and auditor, reported \$18,358.83 collected in his office during October.

The auditor was authorized to have the offices in the courthouse finished painting.

Mrs. Frances M. Darden, home agent, read her report of work done during the month of October.

The following road petitions were approved to be forwarded to the highway department:

1. Road in Plymouth Township running from old Roper Road to US 64 and NC 32 and known as Roxie Reese Road;

2. Road in Plymouth Township running from NC 32 about three miles south of city limits of Plymouth and known as old County Road;

3. Road in Plymouth Township running from NC 32 about 1 1/2 miles south of Plymouth to circle in front of Willie Sitterson's store on NC32;

4. Road in Plymouth Township running from back of Sidney Ward's farm to Welch's Creek to J. B. Eland's house;

5. Road in Seppurping Township running to Spruill's Mill, a length of one-quarter mile.

The clerk, J. Robert Campbell, was instructed to ask the highway department to continue to maintain the old section of dirt road near Chapel Hill schoolhouse

Hallowe'en Event Membership Drive Encouraging Here

Plymouth Parent-Teacher Association Hear Reports At Meeting Tuesday; 491 New Members

The annual Hallowe'en carnival, held here recently under Parent-Teacher Association sponsorship, cleared \$484.79 for the organization.

A report of the event, given at the meeting of the PTA here Tuesday of this week, showed that the turkey dinner in the school lunchroom netted \$131.42, while the carnival itself showed a profit of \$353.37. A total of 142 plates was served in the lunchroom, with Miss Blanche Davis lending valuable assistance. Miss Davis is supervisor of the lunchroom.

Also, a very encouraging report by the membership chairman, Mrs. W. E. Manning, was heard at the meeting. Mrs. Manning said 491 new members of the organization had been secured, with dues amounting to \$245.50.

Three rooms at school tied for the \$5 prize offered in the membership campaign. These were Mrs. Katherine Harrison's third grade section, Miss Nellie Tarkenton's fourth and fifth grade sections and Mrs. C. A. Hough's eighth grade section.

Mrs. Louise McGowan addressed the meeting on her trip to Europe.