

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## THE ROANOKE BEACON

AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

A home newspaper dedicated to the service of Washington County and its 13,000 people.

### Town Topics

Draft board registrants might complain about business connected with the board, but no complaints about the appearance of the office itself are expected. The interior has been newly painted and now the walls are light green while the floor is battleship grey. The work was completed Saturday, Mrs. Lorraine Hunter, board clerk, said.

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Lowry and Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Whitehurst were among those from here who attended the banquet and annual meeting of the East Carolina Council, Boy Scouts of America, in Jamesville Monday night. The meeting was held in the Jamesville School cafeteria.

Assistant County Agent J. L. Outlaw will attend the beef cattle conference to be held at State College Wednesday and Thursday of this week. He will be glad to have any beef cattle producer in the county desiring to attend the event to ride with him. The latest information on breeding, feeding, use of stillbester in feeding, etc., will be presented at the conference, it was said.

Joe Overby, of Smithfield, visited the Washington County Shrine Club in his official capacity with the Supez Club at the meeting of the Shrine Club Monday night at the Lodge Hall here.

Among persons who will doubtless be glad when the holiday season is over could be listed the post office personnel. The rush is always terrific at Christmastime and this year was no exception, according to Postmaster J. C. Swain.

### Scout Fund Drive Here Stands \$230 Below Set Quota

Total of \$1,020 Now in Hand Chairman Reports; Contributions Should Be Mailed In

The annual Boy Scout fund drive in this county has realized \$1,020, chairman Morris Brobst announced this week. R. M. Bruce is special gifts chairman.

The chairman stated that the Roper community came through in fine style, raising \$133 in just two weeks under the chairmanship of Mrs. Beulah Gaylord.

The fund is still open for donations, it was stressed, and those who have not contributed who desire to do so, should mail their contributions to Dr. A. L. Whitehurst, Plymouth. Checks should be made payable to the East Carolina Council, BSA, it was explained.

The amount already raised is some \$200 above the amount realized in last year's drive but is short of the announced quota of \$1,250.

Local leaders are anxious that the goal be met since it could mean that the county would share a field representative with two other counties as under the present arrangement.

Mr. Brobst, Mr. Bruce and Dr. A. L. Whitehurst join in thanking everyone who has supported the annual campaign for the fine spirit of cooperation manifested.

### Superior Court Term Set To Open Here January 16

Washington County Superior Court is scheduled to open here Monday, January 16, for a one-week criminal term, with Judge Chester Morris, of Coinjock, slated to preside.

The Washington County bar is expected to meet within the next several days for the purpose of making up the court calendar.

### Thanks by Chairman Empty Stocking Fund

The heaviest cash contributions ever to the annual Empty Stocking Fund here had been made through Saturday of last week and the overall finance chairman of the project, Carl L. Bailey, sr., of Plymouth, issued the following statement in appreciation of the splendid response:

"Thank you! You are the finest people on earth. When the Empty Stocking Fund drive began it was known that adverse conditions had caused the need to be greater, and a goal of \$2,500.00 was set. That

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### OVER 2,500 HERE FOR ANNUAL SANTA CLAUS VISIT FRIDAY AFTERNOON



"I'll be seeing you," Santa Claus above is telling the children in a crowd of more than 2,500 at the conclusion of his annual visit here last Friday afternoon, during which he received several hundred letters and distributed more than 1,700 bags of candy to the youngsters. The kids are depending on him to keep his word this week-end, too. Despite the bitterly cold weather last Friday, the crowd was almost as large as last year's record-breaker, and Santa was given a tremendous ovation when he mounted the platform in front of the city market building, following a parade by high school bands and drills by Washington, Plymouth and Union High School majorettes. That's Tom Hopkins, master of ceremonies, at the microphone, while W. J. Weaver, back to camera, was one of a large number of men required to man ropes preventing the children from literally "mobbing" old Santa. The small photo below shows a portion of the line of children extending down east Water Street as they marched by to greet Santa and receive their bags of candy. — Staff photos.

### Stocking Fund Boxes Are Being Delivered

### Risky To Leave Money in Store

Police Chief P. W. Brown today issued a reminder to all merchants to take their receipts to the bank and not risk leaving money in the store over the holiday season.

"A lot of robberies are taking place around here," the chief commented. What is that old saying about an ounce of prevention, or something?

### Lake Phelps Legion Post Sponsors Dance on 23rd

Creswell. — A Christmas dance will be held on Friday night of this week, sponsored by the Lake Phelps Post No. 391, of the American Legion. The dance will be at 9 p. m. and music will be furnished by Homer Zirkle and the former Earle Zirkle Orchestra, of Rocky Mount.

### Food Items, Fruit, Candy, Etc., Boxed by Volunteer Workers for Distribution To Needy Families

Deliveries of Empty Stocking Fund Christmas packages of food, toys and miscellaneous items to needy families throughout the county were scheduled to begin Tuesday and be completed the following day, James H. Ward, chairman of the project, reports.

Tuesday was listed for deliveries in Plymouth Township, with Wednesday morning set aside for deliveries in Lees Mill Township and Wednesday afternoon for deliveries in Skinnerville and Scuppernon Townships.

Items of clothing and shoes will have to be given out by appointment and this will be done after Christmas. Needy families will be fitted with clothes and shoes after the Christmas rush is over. But the boxes packed here by volunteer workers and containing fruit, candy, toys, etc., were to be distributed in time for Christmas.

The tremendous task of packaging was slated to begin Tuesday morning, according to the schedule announced by the chairman, and to continue until completed. The auditorium of the county Agriculture Building is again being used for this work.

The project is sponsored in the county each year by the Plymouth Rotary Club in an effort to bring holiday cheer to the needy. Last year about 300 families were materially helped by the project.

Assisting the Rotarians are other groups and individuals who volunteer a great deal of time to the undertaking. The welfare department has always given strong support and each year furnished a list of needy cases which is added to by suggestions from individuals.

More than 700 persons in the county have helped the past several years. The need is perhaps greater than ever this year.

### Pinetown Woman Fatally Burned Early Saturday

Mrs. Levin Wallace Overcome by Smoke and Fumes After Returning Inside To Seek Husband

Mrs. Levin Wallace was fatally burned in a fire which destroyed her home two miles west of Pinetown early last Saturday.

The 27-year-old Mrs. Wallace, the former Miss Evelyn Alligood, was said burned beyond recognition when she went back into the blazing house to see about her husband. Reports stated Mrs. Wallace had helped her two children and a nephew from the house before going back to seek her husband. The latter, a veteran who has been taking medical treatment since World War II, made his way to safety.

Mrs. Wallace, reports stated, was overcome with smoke and fumes and could not get out.

The home was burned to the ground, the loss estimated at \$8,000.

The children, two girls aged six and nine, and the nephew of Mr. Wallace, aged 15, escaped injury.

Reports said the family had been engaged in painting inside the house and had worked until about midnight Friday. It is believed that the fire broke out between 1 and 2 a. m., the result of a faulty flue.

Funeral services were held Sunday at 2:30 p. m. from Rosemary Church of Christ by George W. BonDurant, of Elizabeth City. Burial was in the Alligood Cemetery.

### Community Sing Monday Night Is Well Attended

Large, Enthusiastic Crowd At First in Series of Events; Other Programs Wednesday and Friday

A large and enthusiastic crowd attended the first of a series of three community Christmas sings here Monday night.

The event is being held in front of the City Market Building on Water Street with massed choirs offering carols and special numbers.

The Rev. P. B. Nickens, pastor of Ludford Memorial Baptist Church, served as master of ceremonies Monday night. The event opened at 7 o'clock with the carol, "The First Noel." Prayer was offered by the Rev. J. H. Lanning, local Methodist minister. A solo by Charles Hutchins, "The Holy City," with Beulah Cratch as pianist, was featured. Other numbers by the choir included "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear," "O Little Town of Bethlehem," "White Christmas" and the ever popular "Jingle Bells."

Programs are to be given again Wednesday night and Friday night at the same time and place. The Rev. E. M. Spruill is listed as master of ceremonies Wednesday night and the Rev. C. N. Barnette on Friday night.

The Wednesday night program features a solo number by Myrtle Gray Jackson, with Shep Brinkley as pianist, while on Friday night Mrs. Darrel Cahoon will render the solo number with Mrs. W. D. Walker at the piano.

### Tax Supervisors, Listers in Meet

A special meeting of the Washington County Board of Commissioners, the county tax supervisor and the tax listers of the various townships is being held Monday night of this week at the courthouse here.

Purpose of the meeting is to administer the oath of office to the supervisor and list takers and to establish uniform prices for listing livestock, poultry and other such items of property in the annual listing which is held during the month of January.

Hubert L. Davenport, of Skinnerville, is county tax supervisor, and list takers, by townships, are:

Dewey S. Spruill, Scuppernon Township; Wade S. Hardison, Lees Mill Township; W. W. White, Skinnerville Township; and W. A. Roebuck, Plymouth Township.

### Beacon Office Closed Until December 27th

The Roanoke Beacon office will be closed after Tuesday, December 20, through Monday, December 26, reopening for business Tuesday morning, December 27, at the usual hour. This is one of the few holiday occasions observed by the newspaper and staff members will vacation and observe the Christmas holidays at the same time.

This issue of The Beacon was

printed and mailed ahead of the regular schedule in order to make the week of closing possible. The following issue of the paper may possibly be a bit late but every effort will be made to get it printed and in the post office sometime Thursday of that week.

The Beacon staff wishes to every reader and advertiser a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous New Year.

### Holiday Periods For Local Firms

Most Business Houses Closing Monday and Tuesday; County Offices To Reopen Wednesday Morning

Varied Christmas holiday schedules will prevail among Plymouth's industrial, institutional and business establishments this season, with the closing ranging all the way to 12 days, the length of the holiday period to be enjoyed by faculties and student bodies of the various county schools.

Classes were dismissed at noon Tuesday at all schools and the regular schedule will be resumed Monday, January 2, 1956.

The majority of stores and other business establishments in town, other than restaurants, drug stores and service stations, will be closed from Saturday night of this week until Wednesday morning, December 23, the usual opening hour, giving employees Christmas Day, Monday and Tuesday off.

However, there are some places of business that will reopen Tuesday morning, among them chain stores such as Belk-Tyler's, A&P, Rose's, Leder Bros., and possibly others.

The banks will close Saturday and reopen Tuesday morning at the usual hour.

The garages, it is reported, will be closed Monday after Christmas and reopen Tuesday morning at the usual hour.

The plant of True Temper Corporation here will close Monday after Christmas and also Monday after New Year's.

Friday, Saturday and Monday will be observed as holidays by state offices and federal offices are expected to observe about the same schedule. County offices will be closed beginning Saturday and reopen Wednesday morning after Christmas, it was said.

It was explained that it was felt

### City Tags Go On Sale January 2

Plymouth city motor vehicle license plates will go on sale Monday, January 2, City Clerk W. A. (Bill) Roebuck announced this week.

The plates are black on orange to match the state license plates for 1956 and were made at Central Prison, Raleigh, this year. The city has been getting its tags from Baltimore, Md., in the past.

### Estimated 2,500 Or So See Santa Here Last Friday

Large Crowd Braves Cold Weather, Bitter Wind for Event; About 1,700 Bags Candy Given Out

A crowd estimated at between 2,500 and 3,000 persons including children of all ages ringed in the platform in front of the City Market Building last Friday afternoon for the parade and Santa's annual visit to Plymouth.

A special contingent of majorettes from Washington and bands from Plymouth High School and Washington County Union School at Roper drew great ovations for their performances.

It was a cold afternoon with a bitter wind but many both young and old braved the weather to watch the parade, listen to the Christmas music and watch Santa as he received letters from the

### Special Services At Many Churches County This Week

Good Attendance Reported Sunday Night at Churches Holding Christmas Programs

Special Christmas programs were given at several churches here and in the county Sunday night, but at some of the other churches the Christmas programs are scheduled for later in the week.

Among these is Plymouth Presbyterian Church where a pantomime of the first Christmas was scheduled for presentation Tuesday at 7 p. m., under the direction of Mesdames Robert Combs, R. Vernon Jeter and K. S. Trowbridge.

A part for church members and their friends was slated to follow the pantomime.

Members of church and Sunday School at Roper Pentecostal Holiness Church were scheduled to present the pageant, "The Holy Nativity," Tuesday at 7:30 p. m. A cordial invitation to the public was extended by the pastor, the Rev. Raymond Potter.

The special service at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, located on Highway NC 99 near Pungo, was set for Wednesday night, beginning at 7 o'clock. The program as announced by the Rev. Hubert Burress, of Saratoga, features a pageant, "Why the Chimes Rang." A cordial invitation has been extended to the public to attend this service.

The adult choir at Zion's Chapel Church of Christ, near Roper, will give the cantata, "The Music of Christmas," Christmas Sunday night, the minister, R. L. Gardiner, has announced. This program will be dramatized by beautiful colored pictures of the event surrounding the birth of Christ, the announcement stated. The public is welcome.

The programs already presented went off well, it is understood, and were enjoyed by large crowds.

### Banks Here Will Give Scholarship To Short Course

Award Open to Outstanding Young Farmer of County To Be Selected by Special Committee

Planters National Bank and Trust Company and Branch Banking and Trust Company here will again sponsor a young county farmer at the annual short course in modern farming to be held at N. C. State College February 6-17, 1956.

The two banks are jointly offering a scholarship to cover the expenses of attending the short course to an eligible farmer to be selected. Expenses, including registration fee, room, board, insurance, basketball ticket and banquet, amount to \$64.70.

The program is conducted by the School of Agriculture at the West Raleigh college and covers poultry, marketing, field crops, farm planning, soils and fertilizers, farm mechanization, horticulture, livestock and forestry.

The two-week intensive course consists of lectures, discussions and tours. The course is open to a select group of young farmers of the state who, because of their interest in better agriculture, are chosen from their respective counties.

Those who desire to attend should request an application from county agent or banker, fill out and return to the county agent. All applications must be received by the county committee by Saturday, January 14, 1956. County selections will be made not later than January 21.

To be eligible the young farmer must intend to farm and not plan to go to college, have an outstanding 4-H Club or FFA record, and must not have attended previous short courses in modern farming. The selectee will be expected to bring with him an outline map of his farm showing acreages in each field and inventory information relating to the farm. A long-range plan for the farm will be worked out during the course, it was said.

150 boys from the state will attend. Recipient of the scholarship award in this county for the past year was Leon Dunbar, of Wenoona.

