

Among those from here who attended the funeral of Mrs. Bertha Evora Reynolds in Tyrrell County Wednesday of last week were R. F. Lowry, Mrs. Robert Klass, jr., Miss Sue Underhill, Mrs. Roscoe Gaylord, Mrs. Ada Virginia Cahoon, Mrs. Ursula Spruill, Misses Marie and Maxine Baynor, Mrs. A. L. Whitehurst, Mrs. Ralph Basnight, Paul Frymier, Miss Evelyn Basnight, Mrs. Murray Liverman (of the local faculty) and Mrs. Ted Pinner.

Mrs. Cooper Owens, of Plymouth, left Tuesday afternoon for Rocky Mount to meet the train bearing the body of her only brother who died as the result of a kick in the chest from a mule, while working in a Florida orange grove. A sister of Mrs. Owens is gravely ill in a Rocky Mount hospital, meanwhile. The funeral is to be held near Tarboro, it is understood, but arrangements had not been announced, nor were details of the accident available to this paper as it went to press.

Mr. and Mrs. Farley M. Bowers, who lived in Plymouth for a number of years while Mr. Bowers was employed at the pulp mill here, are making names for themselves in Silsbee, Texas, where they now live. Mrs. Bowers was recently elected president of the Azalea Garden Club there at a meeting in a home on Bowers Road. Mr. Bowers represented his company, East Texas Pulp & Paper Company, in building 150 new homes in Woodlea Addition there, and the Bowers name mentioned in the article was named for him.

There was one important omission in the list of Washington County honor students furnished this newspaper by East Carolina College officials and published last week. The name of Miss Eleanor A. Kinard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Kinard, of Wenona, was left out, although she was one of two students from this county to make the dean's list, signifying superior academic work during the winter quarter. Reason for the omission is that, although the Kinards live in Washington County, their mailing address is through the Pantego post office, which is in Beaufort County. For that reason, college officials included her name in the list of Beaufort County honor students. Miss Kinard attended high school in Plymouth, graduating in 1954 as valedictorian of her class.

Post Supervisor Jesse Rawls lists eight members of the Roper Ground Observer Corps who qualified within the past week for wings and certificates denoting completion of certain training requirements. They are: Mrs. Mary H. Trueblood, W. A. Koonce, Jackie Spruill, Arthur Spruill, Wade Harison (assistant chief), Allan Modlin, M. B. Wallace and F. Bryan Harris.

Those from Plymouth who attended the funeral of Mrs. Ada Elizabeth Rose in Norfolk, Va., Thursday of last week were A. Lloyd Owens, Edward L. Owens, Mrs. A. J. Byrd and the Rev. and See TOPICS, Page 5

Seek To Relieve Homeless Family Fire Burned Out

Roper Firemen and Roper Ruritan Club Join in Sponsoring Fund-Raising For Gaylords

Two Roper organizations—the Ruritan Club and the Volunteer Fire Department—are seeking to relieve a distressed Roper family left homeless by fire.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald G. Gaylord and family lost their dwelling house and practically all furniture and clothing in a late Saturday blaze of undetermined origin, it is reported.

The 116-year-old Gaylord home—virtually a landmark—on US 64 west of Roper was gutted by the fire. Volunteer firemen from both Roper and Plymouth departments answered the alarm but were unable to save much of any value. J. H. Gaylord was the only member of the household at home at the time the fire was discovered.

Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord and their two children are staying temporarily with Mrs. Gaylord's relatives, while Mr. Gaylord's father, J. H. Gaylord, is staying for the present with his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Beulah Gaylord.

No insurance was carried on the house or its contents, reports state. Sid Spruill, a member of both sponsoring organizations, is serving as treasurer of the fund. Mr. Spruill joins the president and members of the Ruritan Club, Roper Fire Chief J. S. Leary and other Roper firemen in asking that all who can and feel so disposed send their gifts to G. G. Gaylord Fund, Roper, N. C., in care of Sid Spruill, treasurer.



**BIG CHECK:** Manager Marvin Weaver and Teller Bessie Brown thought Leroy Bateman presented the big check above for payment. After close scrutiny, it was decided the check was good and Leroy got the \$10 it called for, also \$1 for a similar check made out to his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Bateman received the huge checks at a sales meeting of the Panther Oil & Grease Manufacturing Company in Fort Worth, Texas, on January 6, as part payment of their expenses to the meeting. Mr. Bateman is division sales manager of the firm for North Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia and Ohio, and his division set a new high record for sales during the past year.—Staff photo.

**13.7 Percent Increase In Peanut Allotments**

**Herbert Bonner Again Candidate**

In a letter to The Beacon this week, Congressman Herbert C. Bonner writes that he sent his filing fee to the State Board of Elections on February 1 for reelection as First District Representative. This was in reference to an article in The Beacon last week which stated he had not formally announced but was expected to do so very soon. Mr. Bonner said he intended to send notices that he was filing to all local papers in the district, but overlooked it in the rush of work there. "The moral of this," he concluded, "is that I pay more attention attending to other people's business than I do my own. . . I will do better next time."

**Teachers Added At Two Schools**

Miss Ethel Poe Mercer and Miss Carolyn White Moore have been secured to fill faculty vacancies in the county school system, it was announced this week by the county superintendent's office.

Miss Mercer, whose home is at Washington, has been employed to fill the third grade vacancy at the Plymouth School, while Miss Moore, of Fountain, will teach first grade at Roper.

Both Miss Mercer and Miss Moore are graduates of East Carolina College, Greenville, and are accepting their first work following graduation this week.

Superintendent R. F. Lowry explained that Miss Mercer is an additional teacher earned last fall, while Miss Moore is taking the position Mrs. Frances House Etheridge held before moving to Tarboro. Mrs. Grace Chesson has been substituting in the first grade since Mrs. Etheridge resigned.

It was also announced that Mrs. Eleanor M. Marriner has assumed the position made vacant through the resignation of Miss Amanda E. Reynolds, in the office of the county superintendent. Mrs. Marriner formerly held the position

**Road Relocation Proposal Okayed**

The county commissioners, in special session here Monday night, approved and ratified a proposal filed with the commissioners by the State Highway and Public Works Commission for relocation of a certain dirt road in the county.

The road in question leads off the Mill Neck Road in Lees Mill Township in the vicinity of the Swain Dairy, it was explained. The commissioners' resolution states in part, "It appears that the relocation is for the best interest of the road system of Washington County."

Chairman Frank L. Brinkley, who had previously been given full authority by the board to sign any necessary papers in connection with the new county health center project, reported to the board that Contractor J. G. Kellogg, of Mantoo, had begun work on the new center which is to be built by federal, state and county funds on a lot on Washington Street adjoining the old county home property which was sold to Jack Horner.

**Take No Action on Hospital Addition At Board Meeting**

**Motion To Apply for Federal and State Aid in Adding Hospital Beds Fails To Get Second**

A motion for Washington County to apply for federal and state funds to enlarge the county hospital here died for lack of a second at the special meeting of the county commissioners Monday night.

The motion was made by Commissioner A. R. Latham of Plymouth, but failed to receive a second from the other commissioners present, J. C. Knowles, H. L. Davenport or Phillip M. Spruill. Chairman Frank L. Brinkley had brought up the matter and indicated he favored making the application although he was unable to second the motion since he was presiding.

Mr. Brinkley said he had been in telephone communication with Dr. Ferrell, of the State Medical Care Commission, who indicated the county was eligible for state and federal funds for construction of an addition to take care of 8 to 12 more beds. Estimated cost of an addition is \$5,000 per bed, of which the county would pay 23.6 per cent, with the state putting up 26.4 per cent and the federal government 50 per cent.

Size of the addition to be approved would be determined by the Medical Care Commission after a survey here, Mr. Brinkley said. He urged immediate application so that funds for this county could be earmarked before the state aid fund is exhausted, probably within the next two months.

County Auditor E. J. Spruill, who was present at the meeting, said that the county hospital was operating "in the black" at present, and if it continued to do so no additional funds from the county would be required to pay for an addition of 8 to 12 beds. While none of the commissioners expressed active opposition to making the application, the matter was left up in the air when Mr. Latham's motion was not seconded.

**Pulp Plant Truckers Get Safety Citations**

The over-the-road trucking department of the N. C. Pulp Company, supervised by Ed Bagan, proudly announced this week that Curtis D. Johnson and James H. Lancaster have completed four full years as of February 15, 1956, without a last-time accident, to anyone else or to themselves.

All hours of over-the-road truck driving are counted as hours of exposure for the plant's safety program which as of Tuesday of this week had reached 1,356,916 hours without a last-time accident. This record has been made the hard way, as many papermakers are being worked extra hours as pipe fitters and construction men while trying to get the new paper machine into operation. At present there is no set work schedule for the men in this section and unfamiliar tasks are being performed by them.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Lancaster are listed under the National Safety Council's Safe Driver Award for professional safe driving performance and both have received from

**County Board Will Resume Study Of Bond Proposal at Next Session**

**Strong Case Made In Favor of School Improvement Here**

**Good Teachers and Good Buildings Go Hand in Hand, Rotarians Told Tuesday by Dr. Furgurson**

"We need good schools in order to give every individual the kind of education he wants and needs."

That's what Dr. E. W. Furgurson told Plymouth Rotarians and their guests here Tuesday night.

"Also," noted Dr. Furgurson, "we can't afford to let the Communists get ahead in the field of science even for a short while. We must have good schools, not only for the fulfillment of our ideals, but for our very survival."

The speaker prefaced his remarks by stating that in spite of lack of many facilities in the local high school, over 50 per cent of the 1955 graduates went on to college. This compares favorably with the overall average of only four per cent of high school graduates in eastern North Carolina who attend college.

Many Plymouth graduates have made excellent records in schools of higher learning, Furgurson pointed out. He cited as examples Louis Sitterson, class of '49, who served later as president of the student council at East Carolina College, Greenville; Ann Mayo who posted the highest grades ever attained at East Carolina; Betty Riddle, Jimmie Barnhill and others who have earned Phi Beta Kappa keys at some of the larger universities; Joe Reid who served as editor of an N. C. State College publication for two years; and Rogers By-1 who has won numerous trophies for his outstanding work in the field of science. "These are only a few," the speaker said.

See FURGUERSON, Page 5

**Outlines Basic Needs Of Schools in County**

In a talk given at the regular meeting of Plymouth Rotary Club at the Mayflower Tuesday evening Dr. E. W. Furgurson, of Plymouth, outlined the following "immediate basic needs" for school improvement in Washington County:

- 1. A county-wide bond issue.
- 2. A county-wide citizens' advisory board.
- 3. The active support of all churches and civic organizations.
- 4. A mass of people willing to do a lot of hard, dull work.

**Start Work on Alum Plant Here March 15**

**E. J. Walsh, Who Is To Be Local Manager, Says Work Will Require About Four Months**

Construction will begin about March 15th on the new liquid alum plant for the American Cyanamid Company, it was learned last week from E. J. Walsh, who is to be manager of the new plant. Mr. Walsh, accompanied by his wife, spent last week in Plymouth going over plans for beginning the work.

The new plant is to be located adjacent to the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company, about one mile west of Plymouth in Martin County. Mr. Walsh, who left last week-end for company headquarters in New York City, expects to return and be here during the period of construction as representative of the company. He said about four months would be required to complete construction.

He said the new plant would be built just across the railroad track back of the pulp company's filter plant. One main building to house most of the equipment and the office is planned, according to Mr. Walsh. Few details are available just now, he said, but more information will be made available later.

Announcement that the liquid alum plant was to be located in Plymouth was made from company headquarters in New York City last December 12th. At that time it was stated the decision to locate here was prompted by the rapid growth of the paper industry in North Carolina and Virginia, and the new plant is to be of sufficient size to care for the current and expanding needs of that industry.

The North Carolina Pulp Company here is presently using a sizeable amount of liquid alum produced by the American Cyanamid

See ALUM PLANT, Page 10

**No Decision Reached at Special Meeting Monday; Effect of Bond Issue on Tax Rate Is Considered**

After studying a request for a special school bond election from the county board of education for several hours at a special meeting Monday night, members of the Washington County Board of Commissioners deferred further consideration until their regular March meeting, set for Monday, March 5.

J. W. Norman, acting chairman of the board of education, and Attorneys Carl L. Bailey, sr., and Carl L. Bailey, jr., explained the resolution adopted by the education board at its meeting February 6th, which requested the county commissioners to call a special election for county voters to pass on issuance of up to \$500,000 in bonds for school construction projects in the county.

Chairman Frank L. Brinkley presided at the special meeting, which was attended by all the commissioners: A. R. Latham of Plymouth, J. C. Knowles of Lees Mill, Hubert L. Davenport of Skippersville, and Phillip M. Spruill of Sepperrong. Motion to defer further consideration until the regular March meeting was carried unanimously, following a motion by Mr. Spruill, seconded by Mr. Davenport.

Prior to the vote, and following the board of education's presentation by Messrs. Norman and the Baileys, County Auditor E. J. Spruill submitted figures showing how the proposed bond issue would affect the tax structure of the county. Two schedules of bond issuance and retirements were studied, one prepared by W. E. Easterling, secretary of the Local Government Commission of Raleigh, and the other by the county auditor.

The auditor reviewed the present financial condition of the county, as it relates to the county's bonded indebtedness and the levies projected for debt service. This report showed that the total bonded debt at the end of the current fiscal year would be \$414,500, of which \$255,000 was in school bonds and notes. This debt will be retired in its entirety by the fiscal year 1967-68.

Mr. Spruill said the peak of the tax levy for debt service would fall in the next three fiscal years, with approximately \$66,000 per year required for bond retirements and interest on outstanding bonds. After the fiscal year 1959-60, the amount required for debt service each year will drop sharply, it was

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**Dollar Day Event Here Three Days**

A group of Plymouth merchants announces an old-fashioned bargain event for Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week.

"Dollar Days" will find several clothing, furniture, drug and perhaps other retail firms offering the shopping public some outstanding values during the three big days.

Special merchandise has been placed on shelves and counters in some instances in anticipation of this trade event, it was said.

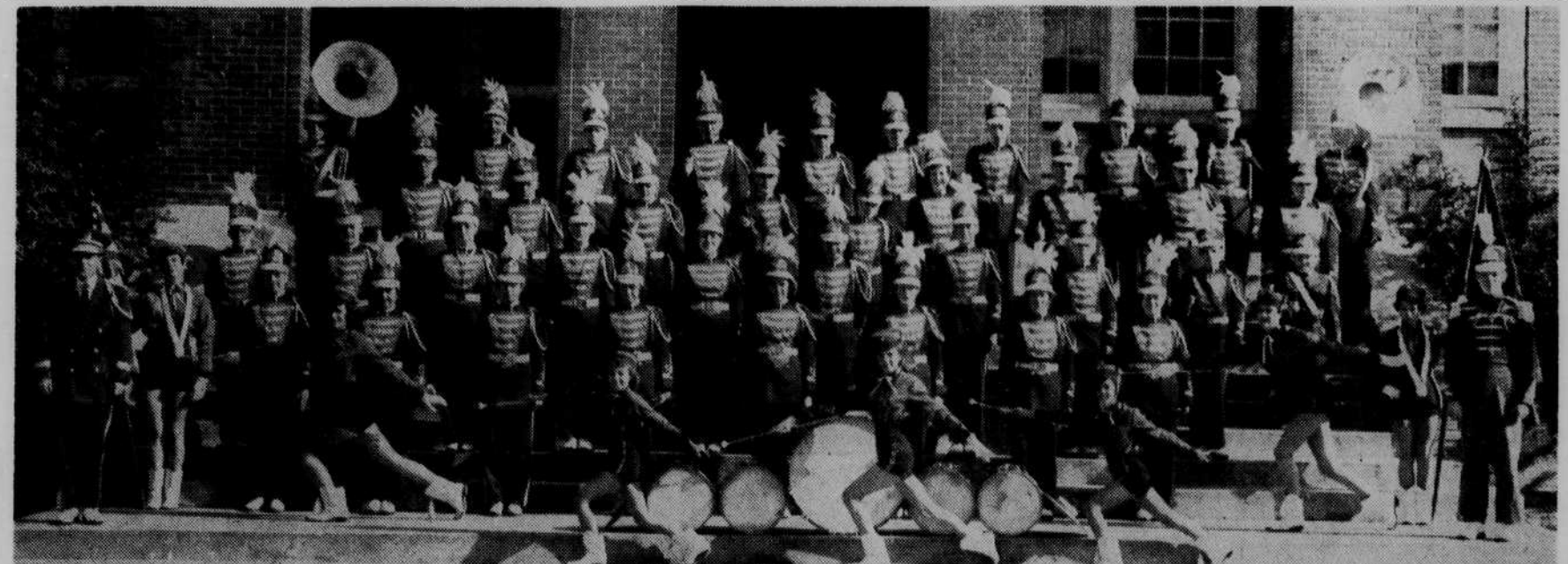
The three-day promotion has been rather widely advertised through use of various media and unusual traffic is looked for. Co-operating businessmen, naturally, are hoping for fair weather. But regardless of the weather, really worthwhile bargain offers are assured all who make Plymouth a trade mecca this week-end.

**Support Sought For X-Ray Work**

Letters went out this week to all churches and civic organizations in Washington and Tyrrell Counties urging support for the coming mass chest x-ray campaign in the two counties.

Miss Iris A. Turlington, of Raleigh, who is publicity clerk with the Tuberculosis Section of the State Board of Health, said the cooperation of all school organizations will also be sought to bolster the x-ray campaign.

Three mobile x-ray units will locate in the two counties from March 3 through 17. One unit will be near the Plymouth Post Office, another will alternate between Roper and Creswell and the third will locate at the Agriculture Building in Columbia. Hours at all places will be 11 a. m. to 5 p. m. Tuesday through Saturday of each week.



**TO GIVE CONCERT:** Shown here is the Plymouth High School band which will give a free concert Tuesday night of next week in the high school auditorium, beginning at 8 o'clock. The band, under the direction of Bernie Ham, Chesire, John Jackson, Larry Allen, Warnie Gurkin, Bobby Kelly; fifth row: William Whitley, Harry Ward, Lowell Bowen, Gilbert Tetterton, Bobby Ange, Bobby Ladd, Phyllis Spruill, Frank Dew, Howard Walker, Barbara Johnson; sixth row: Burton Ange, Ronnie Matheny, Harvey Lucas, Billy Tetterton, Tommie Terry, Ben Windley, Burl Walker, Phil Ange and Billy Waters.—Photo by Weaver Studio.