

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Terry attended the funeral in Goldsboro Tuesday afternoon of Mr. Terry's brother, W. D. Terry. Services were held from Goldsboro Baptist Church, with the pastor officiating, and burial was in a Washington cemetery. Mr. Terry died at a Goldsboro hospital at 1 a. m. Monday after a week's illness. He leaves a daughter, Mrs. Mildred Jones, Kingston; two sons, Raymond Terry, Thomasville, Ga., and W. D. Terry, jr., Charleston, S. C.; and five grandchildren.

Washington County will be host to the Pamlico Soil Conservation District Supervisors meeting Thursday of this week. The meeting will be held in Plymouth at the Agriculture Building, the morning session to consist of a program there, while in the afternoon a tour will be made of Tidewater Research Station.

Mrs. J. R. Campbell, chairman of the Washington County Library Board, announced today that the board invites the citizens of the county to attend "Open House" at the new library Friday night of next week between the hours of 7:30 and 9:30 p. m.

Dr. A. L. Whitehurst will leave Friday for Durham where he will attend the North Carolina Chiropractic convention being held this week-end. Dr. Whitehurst plans to return to Plymouth on Sunday.

Among 11 students at East Carolina College, Greenville, chosen for their outstanding records in academic work to be initiated into Kappa Delta Pi is Miss Ann Lee Mayo of Plymouth. The 11 were initiated into the national honorary education fraternity at the annual spring banquet of the organization held last Wednesday at the Greenville Woman's Club. Dr. J. K. Long, director of the department of education at the college, was received into the fraternity as an honorary member. Dr. Long joined the East Carolina staff in 1947.

Annual Flower Show of Garden Club Here Today

The annual Spring Flower Show, sponsored by the Plymouth Garden Club, is being held at the Episcopal Parish House here Thursday of this week from noon until 9 p. m., it is announced.

Theme is "Flowers on Parade." The staging committee lists Mrs. M. L. Nobles, Mrs. L. M. Cushing and Miss Ida Davis.

There will be no charge for the event but a silver offering will be taken.

Exhibits will be in ten classes.

Summary of Activity of Police Department, April

A summary of activity for the month of April by the Plymouth Police Department shows that 17 warrants were sent to county recorder's court for the period.

Other activity for the month: publicly drunk, 9; speeding, 8; failure to dim headlights, 1; non-transparent materials in car window, 1; worthless checks, 3; stop sign violations, 4; public nuisance, 2; improper brakes, 1; courtesy calls, 12; red light violations, 3; accidents investigated, 6; robbery reported, 1; robbery solved, 1; lights out, 12; radio calls, 272.

Chesson Rites To Be Held Friday

Funeral services for Edward O. (Ed) Chesson, 88, of near Plymouth, will be held Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock from the home. Officiating will be the Rev. C. N. Barnett and the Rev. Paul B. Nickens. Burial will be in Windley Cemetery.

Mr. Chesson died at 9:30 a. m. Wednesday at Washington County Hospital after an illness of two months. He had been in declining health for three years.

He was a native and lifelong resident of this county, born May 22, 1867, son of the late Edward and Nancy Leary Chesson. His wife was the late Florence Oliver Chesson.

Mr. Chesson was a retired farmer and a member of First Christian Church here. He leaves two daughters, Mrs. Burton Ange of near Plymouth and Mrs. Ben Ange of Jamesville; a son, George Chesson of Plymouth; and five grandchildren.



QUEEN AND COURT: Here are the May Queen at Plymouth High School and her court of princesses. Shown third from left and Harrell, Grace Skeen, Nancy Jackson and Joan Asby. Nyl Womble and Charlotte Nunley were absent when the photo was made. Miss Ragland was crowned by R. F. Lowry, superintendent of county schools, in ceremonies on the school campus last Wednesday.—Staff photo.

Democrats of County Meet Here Saturday

The Plymouth Junior Chamber of Commerce will conduct a bread sale here Thursday night of next week in an effort to make up the deficit in the Red Cross drive and save the local blood bank program. Dr. A. L. Whitehurst announced. Dr. Whitehurst is project chairman.

Others on the committee are Foster Perkins, Robert L. Combs, Billy Blackburn, Walton Swain and Ralph Basnight. The term will be divided into territories and canvassed house-to-house, beginning at 7 p. m., Whitehurst stated.

Will Name Delegates to District and State Convention Next Week; Also Choose County Chairman

Washington County Democrats will hold their biennial convention in the county courthouse here Saturday morning at 11 o'clock, pursuant to call issued last week by Carl L. Bailey, chairman of the county Democratic executive committee. The county Democratic organization will be perfected at the convention, and delegates will be elected for the party's district and state conventions to be held in Raleigh on Thursday of next week.

At the convention Saturday, each precinct will have one vote for every 25 Democratic votes cast for governor in the 1952 election. According to that formula, county precincts will have the following number of votes in the meeting Saturday: Plymouth No. 1, 22; Plymouth No. 2, 34; Lees Mill, 16; Skinnerville, 4; Scuppernon, 10; and Wenona, 1.

Under the Democratic Party plan of organization, Washington County will be entitled to 14 votes in the state convention at Raleigh next week, and the county convention Saturday is entitled to elect one delegate and one alternate for each vote, or 28 in all. This is based on one vote for every 150 Democratic votes cast for governor in the last general election. Washington County cast 2,166 votes for Governor William B. Umstead in November, 1952, giving it 14 votes in the state convention.

The county Democratic executive committee will also be organized at the convention here Saturday morning. The chairman of each precinct executive committee is automatically a member of the county executive committee. That group will elect a chairman, vice chairman and secretary, who need not be members of the executive committee, but all of the officers will be ex-officio members of the committee after their election.

Precinct chairmen elected at meetings last Saturday, who automatically become members of the county executive committee, are as follows: Plymouth No. 1, J. B. Campbell; Plymouth No. 2, S. F. Darden; Lees Mill, L. E. Hassell, jr.; Skinnerville, W. W. White; Scuppernon, T. F. Davenport. No report has been received from Wenona, and it is not known whether or not a meeting was held there.

Chairman Carl L. Bailey urges a good-sized crowd of Democrats to be on hand for the convention Saturday morning. It is understood that most of the county precincts "All Democrats in good standing" as being eligible to attend the meeting as delegates.

County Precincts Pick Committees; Delegates Named

Little Interest Evident at Precinct Meetings Last Saturday; Few Democrats In Attendance

Democratic precinct executive committees were set up in at least five of the six county precincts last Saturday morning, according to reports reaching here. It could not be learned if a meeting was held at Wenona, but sessions were held at the other five polling places in accordance with the call issued last week by Carl L. Bailey, chairman of the county Democratic executive committee.

Where meetings were held, five members were elected to each of the precinct committees, including two women; and, except in one precinct, one of the women was elected vice chairman.

Interest was not too high in the meetings, although attendance generally was better than two years ago. So far as could be learned Plymouth Precinct No. 2 had the largest gathering, with 11 Democrats in attendance. There were seven or eight at the No. 1 precinct meeting; and somewhere around these numbers at other precincts from which reports were received.

Delegates were supposed to be elected from each precinct to attend the county convention on Saturday of this week. Due to the small attendance, however, most of the precincts simply designated all Democrats who wished to attend

Farmers Can Get Gas Tax Refunds

T. Reynold Spruill, reporter for the Washington County Farm Bureau, this week issued information of importance to farmers relative to the gasoline tax refund.

Mr. Spruill pointed out that the gasoline tax refund law was passed by Congress this year after a long and determined effort by Farm Bureau to secure action in the interest of farmers.

The Internal Revenue Service has approved forms and procedures relating to the refund of the federal gas tax for gasoline used on farms. These forms will be available shortly after June 1 at county agents' offices, post offices, and probably at local banks.

Form 2240, which will be used for this purpose, is a double card which is filled out in duplicate. One copy is to be sent to the district office. One copy is to be retained by the farmer. Instructions for the use of the form are explained on the reverse side of the card. The first refund will be for the period January 1 to June 30, 1956. In subsequent years the refund will be on a fiscal year basis from July 1 to June 30.

The amount of the refund as shown on the card is two cents per gallon for each gallon used on the farm. If Congress enacts legislation providing for an increase in the federal gas tax to three cents a gallon, the refund will be three cents for each gallon used on the farm.

Weighing and grading of lambs will begin at 7 a. m. and it is requested that all lambs be in the shed by 10 a. m.

The wool pool will be held in Washington in June, Pruden said, and the date will be announced later.

Lamb Pool Slated Here on May 22nd

The annual Lamb Pool will be held here Tuesday, May 22, it was announced this week by County Agent W. H. Pruden.

The pool will be held at the Atlantic Coastline livestock pens behind the depot on East Water Street. Grading will be done by the N. C. Department of Agriculture and county agents from the eastern counties involved will help with the pool.

Set Calendar and Approve Teachers At Board Meeting

Washington County Board of Education Holds Regular Monthly Meeting Here On Monday

The Washington County Board of Education, at its regular monthly meeting here Monday, adopted a school calendar of events for the 1956-57 school year and approved the contracts of all teachers which had been elected by local school committees in the county.

The school calendar adopted calls for the following closings during the year:

October 26, white schools closed for district teachers' meeting; November 9, Negro schools closed for district teachers' meeting; November 22, 23, all schools closed for Thanksgiving; December 20 through January 1, 1957, all schools closed for Christmas; April 22, 1957, all schools closed for Easter Monday; end of first semester, January 24, 1957; school closing, May 31, 1957.

Teachers whose contracts were approved are:

Plymouth High School — J. S. Fleming, principal; Mrs. Gale W. Lucas, Mrs. Lucia Long, Mrs. Ethel T. Gurkin, Joseph W. Foster, Charles E. Inabinett, Mrs. Irma K. Hough, Julian R. Rawls, jr., Miss Carolyn D. Brinkley, Andrew M. Wood, Charles A. Hough, Andrew J. Holliday, jr., Mrs. Lucy R. Liverman, Mrs. Annie Lou J. Gurkin, Miss Elizabeth Topping, Mrs. Audrey T. Dunbar, Mrs. Bruce M. Davenport, Mrs. Helen White Peelle, Mrs. Mary S. Dinkins, Miss Nellie Tankenton, Mrs. Janie G. Dunning, Miss Isabel Davenport, when the vote was ordered, and spoke to the group in favor of having a vote on the matter. He said he intends to vote for the bond issue and he feels it should and will be carried.

On other school matters, the representative said he was in favor of increasing salaries for teachers and other school employees, as well as two weeks' extended employment.

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Hopkins To Enter Furniture Field In Edenton Soon

Thos. F. Hopkins, prominent young Plymouth business and civic leader, has sold his interest in Norman Furniture Company here and announces that he will enter the retail furniture field in Edenton soon.

Mr. Hopkins, a native of Tyrrell County, was assistant superintendent with a life insurance company in Charlotte before entering the U. S. Army. During World War II he served with the First Infantry Division in France, Belgium and Germany.

Upon his discharge from the army Mr. Hopkins was employed for five and a half years with Norman Furniture Company, then owned by J. W. Norman. January 1, 1951, he obtained half interest in the business and with C. Clyde Hardison operated for five and a half years as Norman Furniture Co., Inc. Mr. Hardison became sole owner of the business, effective Monday of this week.

Mr. Hopkins has compiled an enviable record of community service here. He is a past president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, won the Jaycees' Distinguished Service Award in 1950, served in 1949 as chairman of the Washington County Sesqui-Centennial, served for six years as chairman of the Washington County March of Dimes, two years as county chapter chairman and one year as state director, three years on the board of directors of Plymouth Country Club and as Entertainment chairman for four years, president of the Plymouth Merchants Association for several terms, a member of the VFW, secretary of the Industrial Development committee and chairman for five years of the Activities committee. In addition, Mr. Hopkins has found time to serve as teacher of the Intermediate department of the Sunday School of Ludford Memorial Baptist Church for three years.

Mr. Hopkins is married to the former Mary Nooney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Nooney, of Plymouth, and they have three children, Steve, 16, Larry, 14, and Ken, 12.

Mr. Hopkins' host of friends wish him every success in his new venture.

Dr. Phelps States He Favors County School Bond Issue

County Representative Also Outlines His Position on Other Matters of Interest To Voters

Dr. J. M. Phelps, of Creswell, Washington County Representative who is a candidate for renomination in the Democratic primary May 26th, this week issued a statement outlining his position on several matters of interest to county voters. He has opposition in the primary this year from two former county representatives, W. J. Woolard, Plymouth furniture man who served at the 1951 and 1953 sessions of the legislature, and E. O. Arnold, Skinnerville farmer and business man who represented the county in 1949.

Discussing the school bond issue to be submitted to county voters at the November general election, Dr. Phelps said he had been working for several months on the matter. He attended the county commissioners' meeting last month.

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Council Votes To Reduce Tax Rate From \$2 to \$1.80

Raise Over \$800 Here By May Day Program

Means Saving of 10 Per Cent for Town Taxpayers; Action Taken at Meeting Here Monday Night

The Plymouth Town Council, at its regular meeting Monday night, took action that virtually assures town taxpayers a 10 per cent reduction in their taxes for the 1956-57 fiscal year beginning July 1st. Although the town budget has not yet been prepared or presented for approval, the council members by unanimous vote approved a motion to reduce the tax rate from \$2 to \$1.80 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

The matter was brought up by Mayor A. J. Riddle, who favored reducing the rate, and, following a brief discussion, Councilman J. B. Latham made the motion to put the reduction into effect and it was carried without a dissenting vote. Mayor Riddle presided at the session, with all members of the council present as follows: E. D. Keel and W. C. Hall, first ward; J. B. Latham and Ralph Hunter, second ward; C. B. Holliday and J. D. Mallory, third ward.

The tax reduction will go into effect in spite of the fact that the council is planning to contract for a new 250,000-gallon water tank for the town within the next few months. It is estimated the tank will cost somewhere around \$50,000. Part of the necessary funds, understood to be about \$13,000, will come from a sinking fund set aside during the past few years for the purpose. It is also expected the town will wind up the current fiscal year with a surplus which may also be used for constructing the tank.

Town officials have sent out letters to several firms which build tanks asking for tentative estimates of the cost. There has also been some discussion about installing a water-softening plant at the time the tank is installed, and estimates are also to be received about the cost of this.

Town revenue has picked up considerably since the property revaluation was completed early last year. Last year's valuation was over half a million dollars greater than the year before, while this year the valuation increase was a little less than \$10,000. The increase can be seen from the valuation figures for the past three years, as follows: 1953-54, \$4,034,116; 1954-55, \$4,177,392; 1955-56, \$4,731,089. This year the estimated valuation of town property is \$4,740,693. Thus, in the four-year period the valuation has increased by \$706,647. Revenue from the new \$1.80 rate at the present valuation will be substantially more than it was at the \$2 rate four years ago.

About the only other business transacted at the council meeting Monday night was appointment of the budget committee, which is to make its report to the next meeting of the council on June 4th. E. D. Keel is chairman of the budget group, J. B. Latham and J. D. Mallory are the other members. The committee expects to hold a meeting within the next week or so to go over the proposed budget figures for the coming fiscal year.

County Budget Calls For Tax Rate of \$1.70

General County Budget of \$268,673.14 and School Budget of \$73,641 Tentatively Approved

The county commissioners tentatively approved the general county budget for the next fiscal year at the regular monthly meeting held here Monday afternoon.

The budget, as presented, calls for the sum of \$268,673.14, about the same figure as for the present fiscal year, it was said. E. J. Spruill, county auditor, presented the budget. The tax rate was tentatively set at \$1.70 on the \$100 valuation same as last year. Final approval will come later, subject to review by the institute of Government.

The clerk was asked to write a letter to the state highway department, and to Congressman Herbert C. Bonner informing them that the county is still opposed to construction of a fix-span bridge at Columbia.

It was found that through an oversight the board of equalization and review failed to complete its work in March. It was resolved to set up the board to complete its business and on motion of Commissioner Phillip M. Spruill, seconded by Commissioner H. L. Davenport, it was voted to allow 40 per cent depreciation on the old county home property now owned by J. L. Horner, of Plymouth.

Also, it was agreed by Horner and the board that a monthly rent of \$120 be paid Horner for use of the health department offices in the county home building, to be in effect from April 1 until the department vacates.

A resolution was passed to include the part-time employees of the county under social security. It was ordered that \$50 be paid for the dinner meeting of the executive meeting of the Southern Albaric Association held at Creswell in March.

E. J. Spruill, county tax collector, reported \$8,094.21 collected in April.

County Agent W. H. Pruden gave his report for work done in April.

The board members enjoyed a chicken dinner in the Agriculture Building with the executive committee of the Woman's Home Demonstration Clubs.

Banks Observe Holiday Today

Thursday of this week, Confederate Memorial Day, will be observed by the banks as a holiday. No other business houses are to observe the day as a holiday and will carry on operations as usual.

Other holidays on the schedule for the banks are Mecklenburg Independence Day on May 20, and National Memorial Day on May 30, the latter being a national holiday.

Saturday Is Last Day To Register For Primary Vote

Books Will Be Closed May 12; Few Persons Have Registered in County So Far, Reports Show

Saturday of this week is the last day for registering in order to vote in the Democratic primary on Saturday, May 26. Registrars will be at the six polling places Saturday for the purpose of registering those who have not registered previously, or for those who have become qualified or moved since the last election.

There seems to be little interest in politics this year, it being reflected in the few names put on the poll books since they were opened April 28. A few transfers have been recorded along with even fewer new voters. Saturday, May 19, will be challenge day.

Figures were obtained from registrars in both Plymouth precincts yesterday but those from others in the county were not available.

Mrs. James H. Ward, registrar in Plymouth Precinct No. 1, reported a total of 14 new registrations. Four of these were new voters and 10 transfers, Mrs. Ward said.

Mrs. A. T. Darden, registrar in Plymouth Precinct No. 2, said only three new voters had registered during the period, with four transfers also recorded.

To Be Speaker at Roper High Finals

Dr. Leo W. Jenkins, vice-president and dean of East Carolina College, Greenville, will be the speaker at graduation exercises at Roper High School, it was announced this week.

T. A. Hood, principal of the school, made the announcement in releasing the schedule for commencement exercises at the school. Class Night will be held Thursday, May 24, at 8:15 p. m.

The commencement sermon will be preached Sunday, May 20, at 8 p. m. by the Rev. P. W. Aitken, minister of Hebron Methodist Church, of Roper.

Graduation exercises will be held Friday, May 25, at 8 p. m.

Thirteen Qualify for Wings And Certificates at Roper

Thirteen observers at Roper Ground Observer Corps post qualified for wings and certificates during the past two weeks, Jesse E. Rawls, post supervisor, reports.

Those qualifying were Mrs. Ida Oliver, Mrs. Hattie Mizell, Alvin Jones, R. M. Armstrong, Mrs. Neil T. Stout, Mrs. Mary Alice Hassell, Miss Alma Knowles, Timothy Gaylord, A. R. Hooker, Sylvester Lilly, Albert Tankenton, Herbert Allen and Miss Theresa Phelps.

Post strength is now listed as 214. Rawls stated the post has been unattended for only 22 hours, 31 minutes since February 1, 1956.



ELEMENTARY COURT: Jean Tetterton, shown wearing crown, stands among her court of elementary princesses during the annual May Day Festival held Wednesday of last week at Plymouth High School. Shown in the photo, left to right, are Ann Carter, Kay Bowen, Mary Katherine Sundeen, Judy Mobley, Mary Stuart Joyner, Jean Tetterton, Lois Swain, Robin Horner, Mary Latham Mizelle, Janet Bruce and Martha Rodgers. Miss Tetterton was crowned Elementary Queen by R. F. Lowry, superintendent of county schools.—Staff photo.