

A Williamston youngster suffered a cut foot at Albemarle Beach Sunday. John Benny Whitley, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Whitley, is said to have stepped on a piece of glass and opened a cut requiring four sutures. He was treated in a Williamston hospital and released.

J. T. McNair, veteran Plymouth Justice of the Peace, performed his 186th marriage ceremony Tuesday of this week at his home on West Third Street. Mr. McNair united in marriage Donald Craddock, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Craddock of Roper, and Ruby Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anderson of Plymouth. Mr. McNair expressed the hope to reach the 200-mark before he calls it quits.

Roy Chauncey of Glendale, California, was a visitor to The Beacon office Wednesday. Mr. Chauncey is a native of New Bern but has been making his home in California for many years. He and his mother, Mrs. Eva Pierce of Windsor, are spending a few days with Mr. Chauncey's aunt, Mrs. J. T. McNair, on West Third Street here.

Three Plymouth Boy Scouts will be advanced to Second Class Scout at a Court of Honor to be held Saturday, it is announced. The event is scheduled for 7:30 p. m. and will be held at Plymouth Presbyterian Church. Scouts to be advanced include Frank Lowry, Joe Early and Charles Walker.

Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Whitehurst of Plymouth plan to attend the eastern district meeting of the North Carolina Chiropractors Association to be held at Morehead City Wednesday of next week. The meeting will be held in the offices of Dr. R. O. Barnum.

A number of Jaycees from Plymouth are making plans to attend the district Junior Chamber of Commerce meeting in Ahoskie Wednesday of next week. Among those from here who plan to go to Ahoskie are Carl L. Bailey, jr., Ralph Hunter, Billy Blackburn, Jack House, jr., Glen Jones, Robert Darden Swain, Ralph Basnight, John Outten, Warren Oliver, Andy Wood, Walt Furlong, Charles Walker, Bill McCombs and Walton Swain.

Warren Waters, aged Jamesville man who is the grandfather of Mrs. W. B. Cherry of Plymouth, was transferred Tuesday from Washington County Hospital to a Greenville hospital. Mr. Waters suffered third degree burns on hip and legs in a freak accident Saturday afternoon at Jamesville. According to reports the man was standing near a tractor where Jake Downs was cleaning parts when a live wire came in contact with the battery and ignited the can of cleaning fluid. Mr. Waters was rushed to the hospital here. Sunday morning he fell from his bed and fractured his hip, it is reported. His condition remains poor, it was said.

E. E. Harrell, of the Plymouth Furniture Company, returned home last Thursday after spending the first of the week at the furniture market in High Point. The 10-day summer market, which started July 9 and continues through today, had exhibits by almost 400 manufacturers in the 14-story Southern Furniture Exposition Building in High Point.

### Eight From Here At Legion Meet

Next to the Windsor post which was host, Plymouth had the largest delegation at the American Legion district meeting Tuesday night.

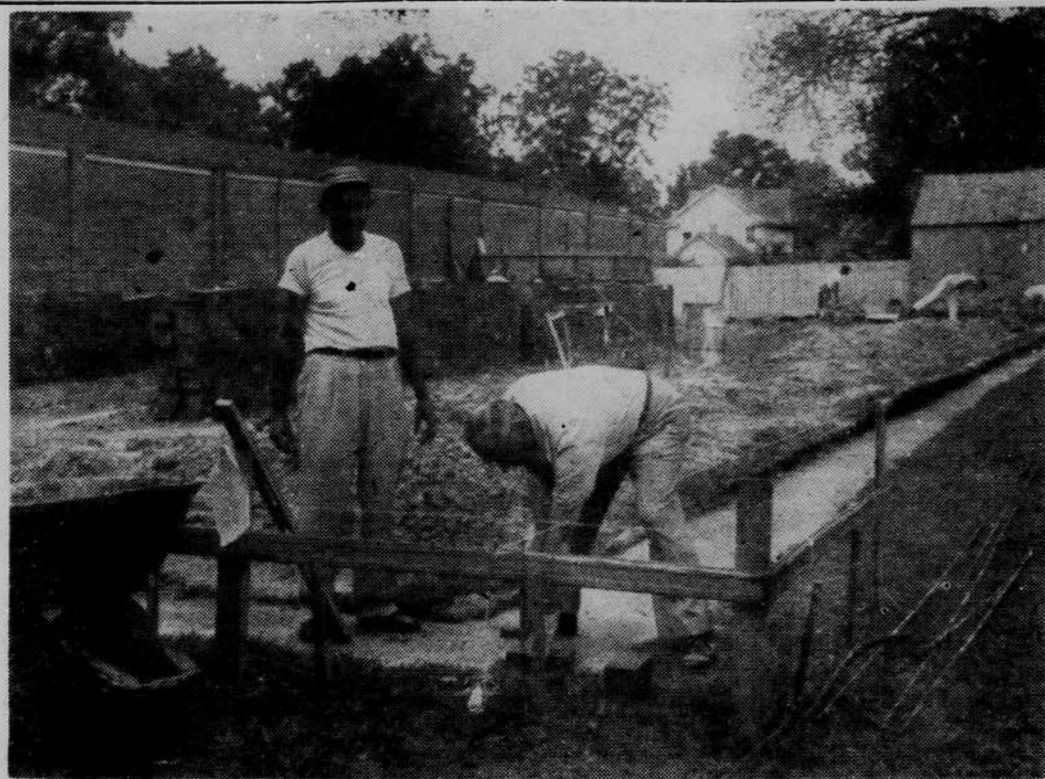
The meeting was held at the Veterans Club near Windsor with four of the seven district posts represented. These were Williamston, Hamilton, Plymouth and Windsor. Creswell, Columbia and Robersonville posts were not represented.

Matters pertaining to the several posts such as membership and service officers were discussed at the business session. A fried chicken supper was served by the Windsor post. Members of the James E. Jethro Post here who attended the district meeting were Commander P. W. Brown, Sam Carpenter, R. L. Tetterton, Ronald Waters, Hubert Ange, J. B. McNair, B. G. Campbell and Jim Porter.

### Ask Bids on Test Piles For Alligator Bridge

In a letting scheduled for July 31, the State Highway Commission this week advertised for bids for driving test piling on the proposed bridge across Alligator River on US 64 between Sandy Point and East Lake. The work was said to be a part of the preliminary survey to determine how long the piles must be and the approximate cost of the bridge.

The commission will meet with Highway Chairman A. H. Graham



**FIRST BRICK:** Construction work was started recently on the new Sunday school annex for Ludford Memorial Baptist Church here. In the photo above, the Rev. Paul B. Nickens, pastor, lays the first brick under the supervision of Contractor P. E. Ambrose (left) of the Ambrose Construction Company of Creswell. The new building, on a lot adjoining the present church property fronting on Washington Street, will be 50 by 110 feet overall, two stories high, and will be constructed of cement block faced with brick. It is hoped the structure will be ready for use around Thanksgiving.—Staff photo.

### Disaster Plans Made By County Red Cross

#### Pepper Prices Headed Upward

Pepper prices, which reached a low of 90 cents a bushel to the grower Friday, climbed to a dollar a bushel this week, it is reported.

Rains the first of the week held receipts down on the Plymouth Produce Auction Market, Manager W. T. Freeman said. However, receipts were running about 1,000 bushels a day by Wednesday, it was said, and more volume is looked for Friday and Saturday of this week.

### Local Church Has Good Report for Meeting of Synod

Plymouth Presbyterians far surpass quota for Building of New College at Laurinburg

James L. Rea and the Rev. Robert L. Combs represented Plymouth Presbyterian Church at the Synod of North Carolina, Presbyterian Church in the United States. The Synod met for its 143rd session at Flora Macdonald College, Red Springs, July 17-19.

The Plymouth church reported to the N. C. Synod a very successful year with an increase of 28 members since the last Synod meeting and a church school organized with an enrollment peak of 53.

The church was happy to report that it exceeded the quota assigned by the Christian Higher Education Committee to build the new Consolidated Presbyterian College at Laurinburg. The church raised five times the amount of its quota. The representatives also reported that the Plymouth church's first building program has been completed with total property valued at \$30,000.

The Synod reported that Presbyterians were continuing to grow at a rapid pace. Rate of growth for Presbyterians was almost as fast as the largest Protestant denomination in North Carolina.

Albemarle Presbytery, of which Plymouth church is a member, again led the Presbyteries of the Synod in growth percentage-wise.

### Meeting Held Here Monday Night To Make Preparations for Coming Hurricane Season

About 20 prominent citizens from all parts of the county attended the Disaster Preparedness meeting here Monday night.

The meeting was held in the auditorium of the Agriculture Building and was presided over by A. L. Whitehurst, county Red Cross chapter chairman.

Miss Eleanor Ramsey, from the Atlanta, Ga., field office, represented the American Red Cross Disaster Service. Miss Jewel Graves, Red Cross field representative from New Bern, also attended the meeting.

Purpose of the meeting was to set up a program for the county in anticipation of the approaching hurricane season. This program would include such vital matters as communications, food, shelter and clothing.

A series of articles designed to publicize steps which can be taken by individuals to insure greater safety in the home in time of hurricanes will be released for publication by the Plymouth Junior Chamber of Commerce, it was agreed.

Roy F. Lowry of Plymouth, was elected county disaster chairman and E. E. Harrell, also of Plymouth, was named vice chairman. Aubrey Dixon was elected chairman for the Roper area and Jack Leary was named as vice chairman there. The Creswell area will have A. K. Spencer as chairman and Mrs. Gladys Davenport as vice chairman.

Plans for the coming season were thoroughly discussed. Every effort will be made, it was said, to secure adequate advance preparation so that the county will not be caught flat-footed in case of hurricanes such as those which hit this section during the past two seasons.

The several area chairmen and the county chairman met at 10 a. m. Wednesday in the county superintendent of schools' office to set up the program, including designation of shelters, emergency first aid, etc.

### Chesson Sworn In On Welfare Board

James A. Chesson of Roper was sworn in Tuesday night as a member of the Washington County Welfare Board. The oath was administered by W. Ronald Gaylord, county recorder, during a routine meeting of the board here.

Mr. Chesson was recently appointed to a three-year term on the board by the county commissioners. He succeeds R. C. Peacock of Roper whose six-year term has expired.

Other members of the board are Mrs. H. C. Carter of Plymouth, chairman, and Mrs. Clyde Smithson of Creswell. Mrs. Carter was appointed by the State Board of Public Welfare and Mrs. Smithson was named by the other two board members. This is procedure, it was explained—the chairman is named by the state board, one member by the county board of commissioners and the remaining member named by the other two members of the welfare board.

### Action Expected On Applications Acreage Reserve

#### County ASC Committee Approves Yield Preparatory To Passing on Nine Soil Bank Forms

Action is expected Friday of this week on 9 Soil Bank applications which have been filed in this county. Miss Miriam Ausbon, county ASC office manager, stated late Wednesday.

Miss Ausbon said that applications include five for corn, two for tobacco and two for cotton. Names of growers will be released following approval of application, it was said.

The county committee was in the field Wednesday to appraise yields of the crops on which application has been filed, it was said.

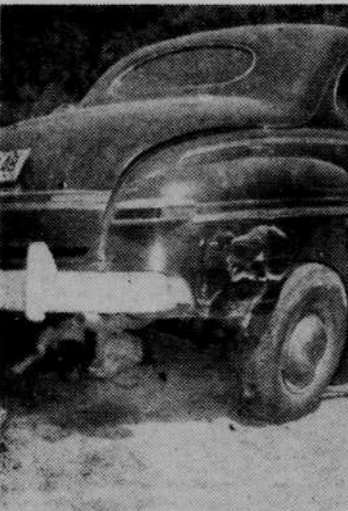
Friday is the deadline for farmers to sign agreement forms to place tobacco, wheat, cotton or corn under the acreage reserve phase of the Soil Bank Act, it was stated.

The deadline for destroying tobacco and wheat in order to participate in the acreage reserve benefits is already past; date was July 15. Other deadlines for destroying crops are Friday of this week for corn and Tuesday of next week for cotton.

A farmer's Soil Bank corn base acreage, it was explained, replaces his corn acreage allotment which he received last spring in advance of planting. The allotment was determined on the basis of the national corn allotment of approximately 43,000,000 acres. In enacting the 1956 Soil Bank legislation, however, Congress replaced the 1956 allotment with a nationwide base acreage of 51,000,000 acres, about 17 per cent above the former allotment.

This national base acreage has now been broken down to individual farms and forms the basis of the farmer's participation in the 1956 acreage reserve program for corn.

To earn acreage reserve payments, the farmer places in reserve specified acres of his corn base and agrees not to harvest corn or



**VISITOR:** A 1947 Mercury, owned and driven by Phillip McNair, jr., left the Mackses highway on a slight curve near Westover Farm Sunday morning about 9:30 and plowed into the side of a house occupied by the Jerry Lucas family. No one was at home at the time and the driver escaped uninjured, but considerable damage was done to both the car and the house. McNair said the steering gear locked. All the brake fluid was lost when the left front wheel snapped off, and the car ran down the side of the highway about 100 feet before ramming into the house. "Frisco," the Lucas family dog, had crawled into the shade of the wrecked car and gone to sleep by the time Highway Patrolman L. N. Walters (right), who investigated the accident, and the photographer arrived.—Staff photo.

### Collections on 1956 Taxes Total More Than \$60,000 Here

#### Many Taxpayers Taking Advantage of Discounts For Early Payments of Town and County Taxes

Approximately \$62,000 in 1956 taxes have already been collected by the Town of Plymouth and Washington County, it was learned Tuesday of this week.

The early payments were made in order to take advantage of the discount for pre-payments.

E. J. Spruill, county auditor and tax collector, said about \$32,000 had been received by the county on 1956 taxes up to Tuesday. The county allows a discount of 2 per cent for 1956 taxes paid during the months of June and July.

W. A. Roebuck, town clerk, said about \$30,000 or roughly one-third had been collected so far on 1956 taxes. The town uses the regular state schedule of discounts, which calls for 1 1/2 per cent for payments made during the month of July.

The number of taxpayers who have prepaid their accounts runs into the hundreds, Mr. Spruill stated. He said there was a time when he could count on his fingers the taxpayers (almost solely corporations and mortgage companies) who paid in advance, but now many individuals follow the practice and earn the discount.

Mr. Roebuck said the bulk of prepaid taxes with the town is still from large corporations and the mortgage companies that pay taxes on much of the property on which they hold papers.

When taxes are paid before the receipts are made out, the amounts are based on last year's valuations and rates. Then when the books are completed later, any discrepancies are charged or credited, as the case may be, according to the tax collectors.

Incidentally, the size of prepayment collections is a pretty good gauge of economic conditions. Last year at this time about \$60,000 had been collected by town and county governments.

### Plymouth School Has Six Vacancies

Miss Ethel Poe Mercer, of Washington, who taught a third grade section in the Plymouth schools last term, has tendered her resignation, it was announced this week by County Superintendent Roy F. Lowry. It is understood that Miss Mercer has accepted a teaching position in Florida for the coming school year.

This brings the number of teaching vacancies in the Plymouth schools to six, Mr. Lowry stated. Miss Mercer was to teach a fourth grade section this year, so the new vacancy exists there. Other vacancies include one third grade teacher, one seventh grade teacher, one eighth grade teacher, a high school science teacher and a high school English-math teacher.

One reason for the larger number of vacancies in the local school is that three additional teachers were earned here last season. Other vacancies were caused by resignations.

### Hospital Gives Party For Negro Employees

About 23 persons attended a party given by the Washington County Hospital for its colored employees Monday night at the home of Sam Halsey on Madison Street. Hamburgers, hot dogs, cantaloupes and marshmallows were enjoyed by the group.

### County Legislators Favor Changes in School Laws



**TO RALEIGH:** Dr. J. M. Phelps of Creswell (left), Washington County Representative, and Edward L. Owens of Plymouth, one of the two state senators from the Second Senatorial District, will go to Raleigh over the week-end to attend the special session of the North Carolina General Assembly, which convenes next Monday at noon. It is expected that the session will deal only with legislation designed to maintain segregated schools in the state and that it will complete its work in about 10 days.

#### Senator Edward L. Owens And Representative J. M. Phelps To Attend Special Session Starting Monday

Two Washington County legislators will leave for Raleigh over the week-end to attend a special session of the State General Assembly beginning Monday at noon. They are Edward L. Owens of Plymouth, one of the two state senators from the second senatorial district, and Dr. J. M. Phelps of Creswell, Washington County Representative. Both plan to leave Sunday or early Monday morning and will have their headquarters at the Sir Walter Hotel.

The special session was called several weeks ago by Governor Luther Hodges, and it is expected that matters to be considered will be limited to legislation designed to maintain the present system of segregated schools in North Carolina. Both Senator Owens and Representative Phelps said Tuesday they did not think the special session would last more than 10 days.

Both the county legislators are in favor of the state administration's program, which is embodied in eight proposed bills, five of which in tentative form were released to the public last week. Governor Hodges has given a brief explanation of the three others. Senator Owens and Representative Phelps attended a briefing session on the proposed legislation at Rocky Mount Monday of last week, when Governor Hodges and other administration officials explained the purpose and need for the special bills.

The eight bills to be considered by the General Assembly are based on recommendations made earlier this year by the State Advisory Committee on Education, headed by Thomas J. Pearsall of Rocky Mount. People of the state will have an opportunity to vote on the proposed measures, as their fate depends upon a constitutional amendment to be submitted at a special general election, probably on Saturday, September 8.

The constitutional amendment to be submitted to the voters would authorize tuition grants from public funds for education in private schools, and would also empower local school units, by majority vote, to suspend their schools if integration occurs. Tuition grants, based on per pupil costs during the past school year, would amount to about \$135 per student, it is stated. Local administrative units could make an additional grant from local funds if available.

No plans have been announced for setting up any system of private

### Critically Hurt In Crash Today

An Edenton Marine who was admitted to the Washington County Hospital at 1 a. m. today (Thursday), following a highway accident near the "Y", was on the critical list this morning.

Dr. Claudius McGowan, attending physician, stated at 9:15 this morning that the man, Hector Quessel, was still unconscious. He suffered a lacerated chest, requiring six stitches to close, laceration of the left forearm requiring two stitches, and serious internal injuries.

Quessel reportedly was traveling alone when his car apparently went out of control and struck a pine tree near Oak Grove Church on US 64 in the Skimmersville section.

It is understood that the investigating officer was State Highway Patrolman L. N. (Red) Walters, of Columbia, and details were not available this morning.

### Plenty Polio Vaccine Available in County

#### Mass Free Anti-Polio Clinics To Start Next Monday Throughout State; Salk Shots Available Here

A dispatch from Greensboro Monday stated that a statewide emergency has been declared in North Carolina in an effort to get more people to take Salk anti-polio shots.

Local health department officials say they have received no notification of such but are in hearty agreement.

Miss Elizabeth Wood, county health nurse, reminds that plenty of vaccine is on hand here and that persons from six months of age through 19 years can avail themselves of the Salk shots.

The North Carolina Medical Society's polio vaccine committee states that North Carolina ranks next to last among the states in the number of eligible persons immunized against polio.

Dr. Donald Koonce of Wilmington who is president of the society said that 1,935,000 North Carolinians are eligible to receive the shots but that only one third of that number have done so.

At the local health department it was said that few eligible persons are taking advantage of the opportunity to obtain the shots. Officials are anxious for all eligible persons to understand that the shots are available.

Booster shots are given to eligible persons who have had their second Salk shot at least seven months ago. No other booster shots will be necessary later so far as local health department officials have been informed, it was said yesterday.

Shots will be given Tuesday and Thursday afternoons of each week at the health department on Washington Street, between the hours of 1 and 4:30, Miss Wood stated.

### Little Addresses Farm Bureau Here

William Little, state Farm Bureau field representative, presented some pertinent information on the current farm situation at a meeting of the Washington County Farm Bureau here Friday night.

Mr. Little also congratulated the county unit on reaching its membership quota for the first time in several years.

### Members of Troop 284 Off To Camp Croatan

Eight members of Boy Scout Troop No. 284 will leave Sunday for a week at Camp Croatan, near New Bern, it is announced.

The group will return home the following Saturday. Boys who will make the trip were listed as Joe Early, Larry Browning, Joe Foster, Richard Furlough, Richard Kelley, Aubrey Asby, Charles Walker and Gene Waters.

Jerry Ashwill, scout field executive for the East Carolina Council, Wilson, will serve as a counselor at the camp.

### Hog Cholera Is Reported Here

Cholera has been reported among swine herds in the county. Veterinarian Bill Kinsey of Washington was in the county this week and diagnosed the trouble as cholera in the herd of Charlie Roberson, near Plymouth.

Growers who have not had their hogs vaccinated against the disease are urged to do so. Assistant County Agent Joe Outlaw points out that to wait until hogs have the disease is too late.

### Seven County 4-H Club Members To Attend Club Week

Annual Event at State College Starts Monday and Continues Through Friday, Announced

Seven county 4-H Club members and their advisors, Mrs. Frances M. Darden, home agent, and Joe Outlaw, assistant county agent, plan to attend the annual 4-H Club Week at State College, Raleigh, next week.

The event will continue from Monday through Friday and the local group plans to return home Saturday, July 28.

The county clubs will be represented by five girls and two boys. Five members of the Plymouth Club and two from the Roper Club will attend.

Plymouth members include Larry Hopkins and Henry Turner, Helen Manning, Rachel Peele and Mary Margaret Atamanchuk.

Roper Club members who will make the trip are Diane Spruill and Emily Mizelle.

Larry Hopkins and Rachel Peele will represent the county as health king and queen, respectively, while Helen Manning will serve as an usher.

Diane Spruill will enter the State Dress Revue.

Due to conflicting plans, one of the members of the county team (See 4-H MEET, Page 12)

### Heat Eases Off Some In County Past Week

The hot weather eased off a bit during the past week.

On the first 10 days of July the mercury was in the 90's seven times, but during a seven-day period from Wednesday of last week through Tuesday of this week the 90-degree mark was not reached once. However, the high reading at the weather station near here was 85 degrees on six of the seven days.

The air was cleared Tuesday by a downpour which added up to a better than an inch and a half of rain. The exact figure at the station near Plymouth was 1.57 and there was .03 of an inch precipitation last Wednesday to go with it. Added to the 3.96 inches on the first 10 days of the month the total stood Wednesday at 5.56 inches.

Tobacco, which before the first pulling was burning up in the field, has been retarded in ripening by the recent rains, some growers report.

The list of high and low temperature readings at the weather station from Wednesday of last week are as follows:  
11th—86, 65; 12th—88, 57; 13th—89, 64; 14th—89, 75; 15th—87, 68; 16th—87, 67; 17th—83, 66.