



Merry Christmas



Town Topics

THE ROANOKE BEACON

AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

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

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Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina, For Thursday, December 27, 1956

ESTABLISHED 1839

Beacon Office Closed Until December 31st

The Roanoke Beacon office will be closed after Saturday, December 30, reopening for business Monday morning, December 31, at the usual hour. This is one of the few holidays 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 possible the week of closing. Every effort will be made to get out the following issue on schedule—that will mean getting it printed and in the post office sometime Thursday, January 3. The Beacon staff wishes to every reader and advertiser a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous New Year.

Holiday Periods For Local Firms

Few To Observe New Years Day

Comparatively few places of business in Plymouth are observing New Year's Day, as a holiday. Most local stores, including furniture, hardware, grocery, appliance and clothing establishments, restaurants, filling stations and drug stores will be open for business as usual. The A&P store will be closed all day along with federal, state and county offices. The local banks, ABC store and post office also are observing the holiday. There will be no rural or city mail deliveries but dispatches will be made as usual.

State Tags on Sale Here Next Month

The 1957 North Carolina license plates will go on sale at the office located at James H. Ward Insurance Agency on Washington Street here January 2, it is announced. These licenses must be displayed on all motor vehicles not later than midnight, February 15.

No special license plate numbers for 1957 will be reserved for anyone, according to a ruling of the Department of Motor Vehicles. The 1957 plates are black, with yellow numbers, and bear the slogan, "Drive Safely." The new tags are the standard 6 by 12 inches.

As in 1956, the numbering system includes one or two letters of the alphabet as pre-fixes for passenger cars and suffixes for commercial vehicles.

In reporting the Christmas parade here Monday night, the article in The Beacon of December 20 inadvertently omitted the Methodist Church float in the list. The Methodist Men put in many long hours of work on the float and the omission is deeply regretted.

Opposition Develops To Removal of Buses

Determined opposition is developing in this section to the application of Carolina Coach Company to abandon bus service in Washington and Tyrrell Counties. Local business firms, civic clubs and many individuals have written to the State Utilities Commission asking that the application not be granted and it is believed a number of delegations will oppose the application if a public hearing is held by the commission.

Early this month the Carolina Coach Company applied to the state commission for authority to abandon 15 routes in the State. Three of the routes in this section, as follows: No. 13, the route from Edenton to Roper and Scuppernon; No. 14, from US 17 near Edenton to 32 over NC 37; No. 15, from Wilmamston to Columbia over US 64 via Plymouth, Roper, Scuppernon and Creswell.

If these routes are eliminated, it means that Washington and Tyrrell Counties, with a combined population of more than 18,000, will have no means of public transportation whatever, except taxicabs. Passenger train service to the region was abandoned by railroads some years ago, and there are no

Most Business Houses Closing Tuesday and Wednesday; Some Offices Observing Monday, Tuesday

As usual the holiday schedule will be varied among Plymouth's industrial, institutional and business establishments this season, with closings ranging generally from two to 13 days, the latter period being that to be enjoyed by faculties and student bodies at the schools of the county.

Classes were dismissed at 12:30 p. m. Wednesday, December 19, at all schools and the regular schedule will be resumed Wednesday, January 2.

The majority of stores and other business establishments in town, other than restaurants, drug stores and service stations, will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, December 25 and 26. The banks will also be closed both days.

Among the industrial plants the holiday period will be from two to five days, according to a check made Thursday. True Temper Corporation will be shut down Monday, December 24, and Tuesday, December 25 (Christmas Day).

Atlas Plywood Corporation plant closed Thursday and will reopen Wednesday morning, December 26. The office force at North Carolina Pulp Company will have off Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25. No. 2 machine closing is set for 8 a. m. Sunday, December 23 and No. 1 and No. 3 at 8 a. m. Monday, December 24 to resume Friday, December 28.

County offices at the courthouse, 22, and reopen Thursday morning, December 27. The county agent's office will also follow this schedule.

Federal offices such as the Farmers Home Administration will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 24 and 25.

Postmaster J. C. Swain stated that at the Plymouth Post Office there will be box service Christmas Day and delivery of packages and special delivery made. There will be no city or rural delivery, of course, and no window service.

Sees Added Farm Income From Feeding Out Hogs

According to Assistant County Agent Joe Outlaw, Carlton Phelps of Roper is trying to increase his farm income by feeding out more hogs on his farm.

Carlton has been carrying four brood sows this year but plans to buy some more feeder pigs, Outlaw states. He has selected some good girls to keep for replacements and to increase the number of sows on his farm.

Carlton feels that this will help make up for the loss from the reduction of acreages on allotted row crops, the assistant county agent added. Phelps plans to feed all of the grain he produces on his farm.

Tax Listing To Begin January 2nd

Tax listing will get underway in Washington County Wednesday, January 2, and continue through Wednesday, February 2.

Dates were fixed at a special meeting of the Washington County board of Commissioners at which final instructions and supplies were furnished the list takers. The county tax supervisor, Hubert L. Davenport of Skippersville, and the list takers for the four townships were given the oath of office and arrangements were completed for uniform listing of personal property throughout the county.

Special Services Here Held Sunday At Many Churches

Include Special Christmas Sermons, Cantatas, Special Offerings and Church School Programs

Several churches had special programs of one sort or another Sunday in keeping with the holiday season. These included special sermons, cantatas, church school programs and other features for the Christmas season.

At the Sunday evening worship service at Ludford Memorial Baptist Church the Senior choir presented the annual Christmas Cantata. It was reported well attended.

The choir of First Christian Church, under the directions of Charles Hutchins, presented a Christmas Cantata, "King of Kings," by Daniel Protheroe, Sunday evening.

The Plymouth Presbyterian Church had a religious program, Christmas tree and party especially for the children of the church Sunday evening. This program was said to be a grand success.

Grace Episcopal Church held a special program for the Church School in the William H. Ward Memorial Parish House Sunday afternoon. The Junior choir sang and the children presented their Christmas offering for the Parish House Building Fund. There was also a Christmas tree with gifts for all the pupils.

The Plymouth Church of the Nazarene held its annual Sunday School Christmas program Sunday evening at the church with a large attendance reported. Recitations, exercises and songs were presented by the children under the direction of Mrs. Ray Brown. Christmas gifts were also exchanged by members of the Sunday School.

At the morning worship service at the Church of the Nazarene the minister, the Rev. John Soloky, preached on the text: "They Followed a Star." Mrs. Soloky sang "Star of the East" as a solo at the service.

New Bridge Over Croatan Sound Is Open For Traffic

Will Be on Limited Basis For Several Weeks; Ferry Service Over Alligator To Be Improved

According to a story from the State Highway and Public Works Commission in Raleigh last week, traffic was to start moving over the new Croatan Sound bridge by last Friday or Saturday on a limited basis. No truck whose top is more than 10 feet above the pavement was allowed to use the bridge at first. This restriction, which will bar many large trucks, will remain in effect until a painter's Scaffold, still being used, is removed.

All traffic will be held to reduced speed over the new structure for several weeks. This restriction will remain in effect until all work on the bridge and its approaches is completed and all workmen have left the scene, it was stated.

The commission also announced that three new ferries will be put into operation next summer, and four old ferry boats are to be overhauled. It is expected that all three of the new ferries will be used at Oregon Inlet, plus one of the renovated boats, while three ferries will be replaced.

Local Masons started raising the money for a home of their own about five years ago, and actual work is well advanced.

Local Masons Plan Initial Meeting in New Building 25th

Officers for New Year To Be Installed Following Week On January 1; Also Barbecue Supper

Perseverance Lodge of Masons will celebrate Christmas this year by holding its first meeting in the lodge's own home, the new Masonic Temple at the corner of Third Street and Andrew Jackson Avenue. While the inside of the building has not been finished, it has progressed to the point where it will be used for meetings, starting with the regular communication set for Christmas night, December 25, at 8 o'clock.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE PUBLISHER



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Officers for the new year will be installed the following Tuesday, January 1, at 8 p. m., preceded by a barbecue supper given by the incoming station officers at 7 p. m. This also will be held at the new Temple. There will be barbecued chicken for those who cannot eat barbecued pig, it was announced. All members are invited and urged to attend.

Officers to be installed at the January 1 meeting were elected at the regular meeting on December 11, as follows: James M. Gilreath, master; G. R. Leggett, jr., senior warden; Jack B. Latham, junior warden; B. G. Campbell, treasurer; and G. R. Leggett, sr., secretary.

Other officers, appointed by the incoming master, J. M. Gilreath, are as follows: Dan Pittman, senior deacon; Hillary Tetterton, junior deacon; Wendell Ange, senior steward; Dennis Snow, junior steward; and W. C. Cheson, tiler. Mr. Cheson who will become tiler on January 1, is the outgoing master of the lodge.

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275 Families Aided By Christmas Fund

Deliveries Completed Friday of Food Boxes; Clothing Items To Be Distributed Later

Distribution of Christmas boxes of food to about 275 needy Washington County families was completed Friday, Jack House, jr., in charge of distribution, reported. The number of families served this year was somewhat less than a year ago, it was explained, because the need was greater due to hurricane losses a year ago.

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Trucks were loaned by Tom Freeman, Newman Allen, Walton Swain and House Chevrolet Company, all of Plymouth, and by C. K. Stokes, vocational agriculture teacher at Washington County Union School at Roper.

Drivers who volunteered their services were Bobby Nooney, Jerry Nash, Newman Allen and Bob Ayers, all of Plymouth, and Stokes who made distributions at Roper.

Mr. House said that this year for the first time Creswell area packages were delivered to a central point there, with individual distribution to be handled at Creswell.

Packaging of food items was done in the auditorium of the Agriculture Building under the supervision of Mrs. Sybil Bowen, Mrs. Roger Hopkins and Miss Peggy Darden of the county welfare department. There were 10 volunteer helpers, the majority of whom had previous experience. Mrs. Bowen said the job went "quite smoothly" this year.

A box for an eight-member family contained the following:

10 pounds of flour, five pounds of meal, five pounds of sugar, one pound of coffee, three pounds of lard, five pounds of potatoes, four cans of tomatoes, three cans of corn, three cans of fish, six cans of milk, two cans of corned beef hash, three cans of sausage, four cans of pork and beans, two cans of peaches, two bottles of syrup, two packages of pancake flour, one pound of dried peaches, two pounds of prunes, one pound of dried apples, three pounds of rice, one box of oatmeal, one box of table salt, one pound of raisins, one pound of nuts, one pound of candy, a box of margarine, two pounds of dried pinto beans, two pounds of great northern beans, two pounds of large limas, two pounds of black-eyed peas, four cans of green peas, 18 oranges and 18 apples.

Some very nice toys were donated and distributed also, Mrs. Bowen reported. She said clothing items will be delivered after Christmas and that applications for the welfare office located in the basement of the county courthouse.

Draft Board's Yule Schedule

Persons having business at the local draft board during the next two weeks are going to have to pick their time.

The board office will close Monday and Tuesday of next week in observance of Christmas, Mrs. Lorraine Hunter, board clerk, reports. Then December 31, January 1, 2, 3 and 4 the office will again be closed while the clerk is on leave.

Hopes for More Profits With Earlier Calves

Joe Outlaw, assistant county agent, says Leon Dunbar of Weno has a herd of grade beef cows but uses a good purebred bull and practices control breeding. Leon's cows have already started dropping calves and he hopes to have an earlier calf crop this year.

Leon has sold his calves at the feeder calf sale at Rocky Mount for the past three years and has been well-pleased with his sales, states Outlaw. By having earlier calves this year he hopes to get more for them than in the past.

Manslaughter Count Against Truck Driver

Probable cause of involuntary manslaughter was found at a preliminary hearing here Wednesday before Washington County Recorder's Court Judge W. Ronald Gaylor for Clinton Vance Willis, 40, of Morehead City.

Willis was bound over to superior court with bond set at \$1,000.

The case grew out of a tragic accident on the old Chapel Hill Road near Plymouth Tuesday afternoon, November 20, that claimed the lives of two Negro children, Hyman Lee Lucas, 8, and James Henry Lucas, 15. Jerry Lee Lucas, 16, suffered rather severe injuries in the mishap.

A tractor-trailer owned by Lloyd Fry Roofing Company of Morehead City and operated by Willis, hit a peanut picker drawn by a tractor at about 5:15 on the day. Testimony tended to show that the driver of the tractor-trailer was operating at a fairly low rate of speed. According to his word, he was traveling

at the rate of about 40 miles an hour.

The three children were all brothers, sons of Jerry Lucas, who lives near the grape farm on the Macksays Road. All three of the children were riding on the tractor, which was being driven by Jerry Lee Lucas, the eldest.

Tax Listers and Supervisors Take Oaths of Office

Sworn in at Adjourned Meet Of County Commissioners; List Prices for Livestock Set

The county tax supervisor and township list takers were sworn in and uniform prices for listing livestock and other items of personal property were established at an adjourned meeting of the Washington County Board of Commissioners held at the courthouse here Thursday night.

All members of the board were present as follows: Frank L. Brinkley of Plymouth, chairman; A. R. Latham of Plymouth; J. C. Knowles of Roper; Hubert L. Davenport of Skippersville; and Phillip M. Spruill of Creswell.

The oath of office was administered to the county tax supervisor, Hubert L. Davenport, and to the list takers, W. A. Roebuck of Plymouth Township, Wade S. Hardison of Lees Mill Township, and W. W. White of Skippersville Township.

Prices were fixed as follows for uniform personal property listing: Sheep, \$4 and up; goats, \$1 and up; milk cows, \$100; beef cattle, 10 cents a pound; dairy cattle, six cents a pound; poultry, 10 cents a pound; no. 1 horses, \$35 and up; no. 2 horses, \$25 and up; no. 1 mules, \$60 and up; no. 2 mules, \$25 and up; meats, 12 cents a pound; hogs, eight cents a pound; lard, 10 cents a pound.

It was also decided at the meeting that servicemen will be required to list their poll; previously they have been exempted from such in this county.

Thanks Expressed For Contributions To Stocking Fund

Finance Committee Chairman Carl L. Bailey, Sr., Reports Sum of \$2,452.78 Collected

The Empty Stocking Fund drive was less than \$48 short of its \$2,500 goal Friday morning, according to figures released for publication by Carl L. Bailey, sr., chairman of the Fund's Finance committee.

The amount collected, Mr. Bailey said, was \$2,452.78. Purchases have been made, packaged and distributed to approximately 275 families in the county whose need was certified by the county welfare department.

Many persons and firms rallied to the support of the 1956 Fund, Mr. Bailey stated, and to all who had a hand in the great effort—an annual project here of the Rotary Club aided by many other organizations and individuals—the profound thanks of the committee chairman and other leaders of the project are herewith expressed.

D. Marvin Weaver served as overall chairman of the 1956 drive.