

# THE STATE PORT PILOT

A Good Newspaper In A Good Community

Most of The News  
All The Time

The Pilot Covers  
Brunswick County

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## Jury List For January Term Of Court Drawn

Judge W. C. Harris of Raleigh scheduled to preside over one week mixed term convening on January 24th.

## MANY CRIMINAL CASES SLATED

Annually long list of jurors drawn in order that grand jury may be chosen to serve during 1949.

W. C. Harris of Raleigh named to preside over January term of Superior court which will convene on Monday, January 24. This will be a mixed term, although criminal cases probably will take up most of the time.

Jury list was drawn by the county commissioners at their last meeting here, and in addition to the regular trial jurors for the January term of court a grand jury to serve during 1949 will be selected from the number.

Of the list drawn, 23 are women listed by post offices, the following comprises the full list:

Stovall—Mrs. G. G. Bordeaux.  
Wampsey—S. C.—Mrs. Ray Long.  
Wanwood—T. T. Ward and  
O. R. Ivey.  
Winnabow—G. F. Sullivan and  
G. Cooke.

Blivins—Mrs. Clara E. Lewis  
Mrs. Estelle Gore.  
Leland—C. L. Lynch, W. E.  
H. Ganey.  
Mrs. F. D. Williams and  
I. Hewett.

Southport—Jack B. Drew, Mrs.  
G. Bragaw, Mrs. J. S.  
Mrs. Hermine Doshier, Dr.  
C. Daniel, F. W. Spencer and  
Clyde Swain.

Shalotte—J. M. Parker, Mrs.  
Thomas, Mrs. Mary Ann  
D. L. Bowen, A. Earl Mil-  
C. A. Stanley, H. P. Som-  
Mrs. C. Elliott Tripp,  
E. (Isaac) Hewett, Mrs.  
H. A. Galloway.

Supply—Paul Hewett, Carrie  
Floyd H. Varnum, Mrs.  
Gray, Lennell W. Hewett,  
A. Norris, L. M. Robinson,  
Cason, Garland Clem-  
A. S. Hewett, Hobby He-  
Ermon Clemmons and Mrs.  
Galloway.

**Brief News  
Flashes**

**HARRY WEEKS**  
Word was received at noon today that Capt. Harry Weeks, who many years in charge of the pilot boat for the Wilmington-Cape Fear Pilot Association, died this morning at Doshier Memorial Hospital. His funeral will be held Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock at Trinity Methodist Church.

**MEETINGS**  
A meeting of all pastors of churches in Brunswick county has been called for Friday night at 8 o'clock at Supply Baptist Church. There will be a second meeting on Monday night at Mt. Zion Baptist church. Everyone is invited to attend.

**MEETING**  
The next meeting of the Southport Woman's Club will be held Wednesday afternoon, January 14, at 3:30 o'clock in the Southport high school auditorium. The subject of this program will be the showing of the movie "18th Century Life in Williamsburg."

**CERTIFIED**  
A. T. McKeithan, Jr., son of A. T. McKeithan and the late A. T. Tilden McKeithan of Southport, has finished his two-year course in accounting in New York City. He recently passed the examining board and is now employed by the A. Besher Company in New York City.

**MONTHS LEAVE**  
W. C. Harris, young man who has been with the Maritime Commission since 1942, is spending a few months with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. McKeithan, at Bolivia, N. C.

East Arthur Texas along the Coast.

## Community Christmas



**SANTA**—High spot of the Christmas season, so far as the children were concerned, came Friday afternoon when Santa Claus made a dramatic appearance at the garrison grounds and proceeded to preside over the distribution of presents at the Community Christmas tree. He soon completed his duties and was off on the Southport fire truck for the Brunswick County Training school where he did a repeat performance for the benefit of the colored children. This delightful event was under the direction of Mrs. Helen Bragaw.

## Pumping Station May Solve Water Problem

With Two Beach Developments Needing Source Of Dependable Water Supply, Ft. Caswell Wells May Be Answer

### LONG BEACH IN NEED OF WATER

Development Of Dependable Water Distribution System One Of Most Pressing Needs There

Seldom seen by anyone because of its location and never given much consideration, one of the most valuable units of the Fort Caswell property, now up for disposal by the WAA, is the modern and costly pumping station for the water supply.

The wells, modern brick building and modern pumping machinery are located deep in the woods on a two acre reservation. The purest of water is obtained in unlimited quantities and is carried by large water mains, running underground, through the Caswell Beach property to Fort Caswell, a distance of two miles.

In the old days before the wells at this station were drilled, everything at Fort Caswell had to depend on cistern water for drinking purposes. The cisterns are still there—huge concrete vats, built underground to hold rain-water running from the roof of the buildings.

The water system from the wells in the Caswell Beach woods  
Continued on page four

## Dredge Lyman Back In States

Big Hopper Dredge Now In Dry Dock At Jacksonville, Fla., And Crew Members At Home For Holidays

The Lyman, huge hopper dredge of the U. S. Army Engineers, has returned from Maracubo, Venezuela, to Jacksonville, Fla., and is now having a brief overhauling at the shipyard there. About the first of the year she will begin dredging at West Palm Beach, Fla. From there she comes to Georgetown, S. C., for work on the harbor. Her next scheduled work, so far as is known, will be at Atlantic City, N. J.

John D. Swan of Southport is captain of the Lyman. In his crew are a large number of other Brunswick county men. Some of them are making regular runs to East Arthur Texas along the Coast.

## Firecracker Is Accident Cause

A prematurely exploding firecracker in the hands of 15 year old Delmas Cumbee of Winnabow sent him to the hospital on Christmas day. One of his fingers had to be amputated and the rest of the hand is said to have been badly damaged. He is the son of Mrs. Sudie B. Cumbee. It has not been learned here how he came into possession of the explosive. The sale of firecrackers in North Carolina is banned by law.

## Baptists Enjoy Two Programs

Candlelight Service Observed At Church Wednesday; Christmas Party Enjoyable Affair

On Wednesday evening, December 22, the Southport Baptist Church presented a Christmas Candlelight Service featuring the congregation, choir, pastor and several speakers. The program was under the direction of Mrs. E. C. Blake, assisted by Mrs. Robert Carson, Mrs. George Whalley and Mrs. R. C. Daniel. Immediately following the candlelight service gifts were presented to all the children of the Sunday School through the Junior Department.

On Tuesday night, December 14, the Woman's Missionary Society of the Southport Baptist Church entertained at their annual Christmas party in connection with their regular December meeting, the party being held at the home of Mrs. Lewis J. Hardee. The living room and dining room were beautifully decorated featuring the Christmas motif.

The program was given with Miss Gertrude Loughlin in charge and Miss Annie May Woodside, Mrs. Jack Oliver and Mrs. Lucille Williamson taking part, telling of Christmas celebrations around the world where the Baptists have missionaries. The Lottie Moon Christmas offering was taken for Foreign Missions and the reports from the various Circles were made.

The program was then turned over to the committee in charge of arrangements and Mrs. Robert Carson presided.  
Continued On Page Four

## Waccamaw Bank Mails Quarterly 50-Cent Dividend

Earnings For 1948 Above Those Of Previous Year, Exceeding Five Dollars Per Share

J. N. Coburn, executive vice president of the Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company, announced last week that the directors in a regular meeting on December 10th, declared a dividend of 50 cents per share to holders of record as of December 15th. The dividend was payable on December 20th and checks were mailed on Monday in order to reach them before the holidays.

Coburn pointed out that this payment makes a total of \$2.00 per share paid to stockholders during 1948 on the stock which has a par value of \$10.00 per share, and a book value slightly in excess of \$50.00. Earnings of the bank for 1948 after payment of all expenses and provision for all taxes, will exceed \$5.00 per share which is above 1947 earnings.

It was also announced that the directors of the bank decided to place dividend on a regular quarterly basis, paying them in March, June, September, and December in the future.

The Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company  
Continued on page four



W. B. KEZIAH

A very regrettable thing to sportsmen is the large number of fine dogs lost or stolen in Brunswick county this year. Many of these dogs were brought in by hunters from distant points, taken on hunts and never heard of again. In some instances they were just lost, in other cases they were deliberately stolen. Local hunters, as well as visitors have suffered from this thievery. The general belief is that most of the animals are stolen by persons from upstate. In some cases they come down in trucks with dog cages and a few dogs, allegedly on hunting trips. Really the cages and dogs are a front in which they can place valuable animals belonging to sportsmen and haul them away without any-

## Tobacco Growers Given 5 Percent Acreage Increase

President Of The Bright Belt Warehouse Association Announces Boost In Allotment For 1949

### EXPORT SITUATION APPEARS BRIGHTER

Means 57,000 More Acres For Producers In North And South Carolina, Virginia (Florida And Georgia)

Brunswick county tobacco growers got an attractive Christmas present this week in the form of a five percent increase in acreage for 1949.

Fred S. Royster, president of the Bright Belt Warehouse Association, announced the increase yesterday at Henderson.

That figure, which had been set tentatively last August, was agreed on yesterday at a meeting of representatives of the Production and Marketing Administration and warehouse interests at Columbia, S. C., he said.

Acreage for 1949 in the flue-cured states of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Georgia will be 960,000, as compared with a quota of 907,000 acres this year.

Royster said that a "reasonable hope for a better export situation in 1949 was the primary factor" that resulted in approval of the figure.

He added that "Domestic consumption was at an all-time high this year, and I don't believe, and I don't think any one else believes, that there will be a downward trend next year."

At Raleigh, W. P. Hendrick, tobacco marketing specialist of the State Department of Agriculture, commented that flue-cured growers are going into 1949 in a "good position."

The five per cent higher acreage, he said, is expected to produce about the same amount of tobacco as was used this year.

## Vernon Wescott Shot Christmas

Southport Man Is Gravely Wounded When Shot In Stomach By Pistol In The Hands Of His Wife

Vernon Wescott still is in a serious condition at Doshier Memorial Hospital in Southport from a bullet fired into his stomach Christmas Day at his home near Southport. His wife, Mrs. Myrtle Creech Corsi Wescott, told investigating officers that she fired the shot.

She was arrested at Doshier Memorial Hospital by Deputy Sheriff G. D. Robinson and Chief of Police Otto Hickman and went with the officers to her home and showed them where she had hid the pistol in a drawer. It was a .32-calibre automatic from which all shells had been fired. There were three bullet holes in the window and walls of the room in which the shooting took place.

As soon as he had recovered from the shock and from his operation, Wescott called Deputy Robinson Sunday and told him the story.  
Continued On Page Four

## Our ROVING Reporter

one being the wiser.

We know of half a dozen Bill Keziah scattered about the State. There is the Rowan County Register of Deeds, a second cousin of ours. At Monroe and Charlotte are two or three more. Burlington has a lanky young football player who attracted a lot of state-wide attention this fall. Last week Rev. and Mrs. H. B. Johnson of Mt. Airy came across a picture of the Burlington Bill Keziah. The Johnsons are good friends of ours, a circumstance we are proud of. They clipped the picture of the Burlington Bill and mailed it to us with this comment: "Playing football seems to have made you look younger and  
Continued On Page Four

## Bald Eagles Already At Work On Nests

Young Ornithologist Spent Part Of Christmas Vacation Checking Up On Big Birds

With the year not yet gone the numerous families of bald eagles in Brunswick county are already hovering over and rebuilding their nests. They are preparing to raise their 1949 families.

The day before Christmas Quincy Scarborough, a bird club boy from Fayetteville, came down to investigate one of the eagles' nests at Beaver Dam, four or five miles from Southport. The old birds are there and have been busy rebuilding. It was thought they might have already started laying eggs. Investigation revealed that there were no eggs, but Scarborough says he thinks the female will start laying this week.

This particular nest is in an old forest pine, 90 feet from the ground. Some time in the long ago lightning struck this tree, causing the top to split and grow out in several branches. The nest is on one of these branches and by climbing another, a few feet away, it is possible to look in

the nest, see the eggs when there are eggs to see and the young, when the young are there.

This looking at the young may not be a altogether a pleasant process. Even when there is nothing but eggs in the nest the old birds deeply resent intrusion. When the eggs develop into young eaglets the old birds become vicious, it might be said dangerous, to climbers. They are likely to swoop in an strike such intruders.

Both birds were resting on their nest at the time of the visit last week. When Scarborough got started on his long climb up the tree they took to the air but refused to desert the vicinity. They swooped and circled around, uttering their angry cries, but they seldom came nearer than 30 or 40 feet.

It will be different when the young are in the nest. Then the climber may expect to feel the  
Continued On Page Four

## Southport Seafood Dealer Offers Jobs

### Moscow Call On Christmas Day

Where he was it was 5 o'clock in the afternoon of Christmas day when Master Sgt. James K. McKeithan talked to his mother, Mrs. A. T. McKeithan in Southport at 8:30 o'clock Christmas morning.

Sgt. McKeithan is in Moscow, Russia, with the American Embassy. The Russian time is somewhat ahead of Southport. Talking to his mother for several minutes, Sgt. McKeithan told her that he was well, that it was five o'clock in the afternoon of Christmas day and for her to tell all of his friends in Southport hello and good wishes for the New Year.

At 10:30 o'clock Christmas Eve Mrs. McKeithan was told by the Southern Bell long distance operator in Wilmington to be near her phone at 8:30 o'clock Christmas morning, as she had a call coming in at that time. The call came on the dot 8:30 o'clock and was from Sgt. McKeithan. It was a direct person to person talk, Moscow to Southport. Mrs. McKeithan says she distinctly heard every word spoken by her son. He, likewise, had good reception.

## Present Pageant At Presbyterian

"The Christmas Pilgrims" Presented By Large Group Of Young People Thursday Evening At Church

"The Christmas Pilgrims" was presented on Thursday evening by the Presbyterian Youth Choir and delighted the audience gathered to enjoy this Christmas program. Thirty-five young people participated in the pageant.

The prologue was delivered by Frank Plaxco, Jr.

The roles of Joseph and Mary were depicted by P. W. Larsen and Linda Hickman. The records were Barbara Hewett and Sam Newton. Soloists were Iris Newton, Claire Potter and Tilda Thorsen. Duets were sung by Ramona Williamson and Carol Ann Wolf and by Gwendolyn Cook and Annis Cooker.

"Silent Night" was sung by the boys quartet.

The performance was under the direction of Mrs. R. F. Plaxco, Mrs. James Wolfe and Mrs. J. M. Waggett.

## Motorists Have Today And Tomorrow To Get Auto- mobiles Through Inspec- tion Before Deadline

Brunswick county automobile owners will have one more opportunity this week to comply with the motor vehicle inspection law when Motor Vehicle Inspection Lane No. 35 sets up for operation at Supply on Thursday and Friday.

December 31 is the deadline before which all motor vehicles in operation on the public highways  
Continued on page 3

## Decorations For Christmas Were Best In History

Streets Of City Were More Colorful In Holiday Decorations Than In Any Other Yuletide Season

### SEVERAL PRIZES GIVEN IN CONTEST

The Annual Woman's Club Lighting Contest Created Unusual Amount Of Interest This Year

Southport was gaily bedecked for Christmas this year with the street lights being more numerous and more colorful than ever and with more interest than usual in the annual decorations contest sponsored by members of the Southport Woman's Club.

Judging in this latter event resulting in the following awards: Miss Margaret Parkhill's living Christmas tree was judged to be the best in town and she received as prize a box of candy from Leggett's drug store. Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Hood won second prize for living tree and received a year's subscription to the State Port Pilot.

Three prizes were awarded for doorways, the first going to Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Weeks for their blue and white lighting arrangement. The prize was ten tickets to the Amuzu Theatre. Mr. and Mrs. Dan Harrelson received second prize, a shampoo and set at Dot's Beauty Shoppe. Their doorway was flanked with tall red candles and bordered with greens. Third prize went to Mrs. Ed. Taylor for her doorway which was a full sized replica of Santa Claus. The prize was a set of hand towels from Arrington's.

First prize for original house decorations went to Mr. and Mrs. James M. Harper, Jr. Santa Claus, just going down the chimney, was spotlighted and "Merry Xmas" in red letters was across the front of the house. Their prize was a set of mixing bowls from Southport Trading Co. Mr. and Mrs. Merle Hood won second prize, a shampoo and set at Helen's Beauty Shoppe, for their blue outlined entrance and second story Christmas tree.

The W. B. & S. Bus Lines won the commercial prize for their tree in the window of the bus station. The prize was a fruit cake from Harrelson's Grocery.

## Basketball Game For Fire Truck

Benefit Contest Between High School Team And Stars Of Other Years Will Be Played Thursday Night

Southport basketball stars of other days can be seen at the high school gymnasium here Thursday night when Coach H. T. Sanders trots out his 1949 model against a group of the old boys. It is safe to say that the old-timers will have just as many admirers in the audience as the present players have.

The game will be a benefit affair, all proceeds to be donated to the Volunteer Fire Department to be added to the fund they are assembling to complete payments on the new fire truck that was recently ordered.

Among the old-timers in uniform Thursday night will be Skippy Stiller, Franto Molycheck and Jimmie Russ. These have been rated as among the best players ever produced locally. Stiller is now studying in college, Molycheck is in the Navy and Russ is working in Washington for the FBI. All three the at home for the holidays. Added to the above the old-timers will have Carl Brock, Bobby Jones and several others. The school boys will play their regular line up, according to coach Sanders.

## Seeking Report On Seal Sale

Chairman Of Christmas Seal Sales For Southport Woman's Club Is Anxious To Complete Record

Mrs. Mazie Hiatt, in charge of Christmas seal sales for the Southport Woman's Club, says that she is anxious to clear up records of this year's sales and urges that each person who has not yet paid for those he received to do so at once.

Where the person does not wish to participate in this worthwhile program, he is urged to return the seals to Mrs. Hiatt. It is pointed out, however, that  
(Continued on page four)

## Navassa Citizen Suicide Victim

Ezekiel H. Williams Died Tuesday Morning At His Home Of Self-Inflicted Gunshot Wounds

Ezekiel H. Williams, native of Onslow county but resident of Navassa for the past several years, shot and killed himself early Tuesday morning in his residence at Navassa.

Mr. Williams' 54 years old and the Cape Fear bridge tender for the Atlantic Coast Line railroad, had been in bad health for some time. Worrying over his condition is believed to have prompted him to take his own life. The weapon used was a 12-gauge shotgun, loaded with buckshot shell. The trigger was operated with a short cane and the entire load entered his left chest and passed completely through his body.

Coroner John G. Caison was summoned to the scene by Deputy Sheriff O. W. Perry and Constable J. E. Lewis of North West township. Investigation by the coroner and officials revealed a clear case of suicide. Mr. Williams left notes instructing a brother in Wilmington regarding his burial and the disposal of his property.