

A Day in Recorder's Court

Impressions of a Seasonal Resident of the Sandhills Upon Hearing the Trials and Travails of Witness Stand and Counsel Tables As Judge Rowe Clears a Docket

By Mrs. Rudel McGill

A visitor to the United States Supreme Court feels a stupified astonishment and not much else, because it is too remote from him. There are the nine fabulous men whose opinions mould our national destiny, listening attentively to the nation's business. Not much that goes on can be heard, and the cases proceed in a monotonously dignified and ritualistic manner. Personalities do not intrude into the majestically mechanized controversy, and the average citizen feels that this bloodless battle of legal intricacies has nothing to do with him. No human interest stuff there.

As different as Park Avenue from the Bowery, is the Moore County Courthouse, and Monday, with Recorder's court in session. There is paraded the whole army of human failings and disorders. Mannie Robertson, (colored), has hauled her neighbor, Tom Black, into court for stealing two of her chickens, and refusing to pay for them. Tom denies the charge until confronted with the feathers found in his wood-box. Patsey charges her boy-friend, Will, with assault, because last Saturday night they had a fight and he tried to beat her up. Like as not by court time Monday, they have patched it up, and are going to get married.

The whole list of marital woes that have recourse to law, appear in discouraging profusion; sometimes there are attempted murders, always larceny and assault. Most usual of all is drunken driving. After attending a couple of sessions, one concludes that alcohol is the common denominator of every offense. During the testimony at least one witness, or the plaintiff or the defendant, is called upon to state just how drunk

he was at the time whatever it was that happened, happened. Follows a lot of euphemistic conversation. "Were you drinking?" "Yes, suh." "Were you drunk?" "NO, suh!" with emphasis. "Were you tight?" "Were you high?" "Were you a little high?" Usually the occupant of the chair is persuaded to admit the last mentioned condition, not often beyond that, even though the five or six people concerned, gathered around a half-gallon jug of bootleg, and wrung it dry at a sitting. Without question, they are sober by the time they are sworn in and kiss the bible which has been held by so many sticky, nervous hands before theirs.

Colored or white, they shuffle dejectedly up to the front of the room. They testify solemnly, usually chewing-gum to keep their throat from going dry, trying hard to sort out the pieces of what happened in a fog-like haze. Sometimes a witness senses the dramatic possibilities of their moment on the stand, and give it all they have, with gestures. The prosecuting attorney, with a battery of sharp questions, draws the truth out of the most reluctant; the judge pronounces sentence. "Thirty days in jail or twenty-five dollars fine, plus costs." With an utterly impassive, stolid look, the culprit hears it and accepts. Only the very young, very rarely, display any emotion. Yet the undercurrents of nervousness and fear are plain as the sweat marks on their blue denim shirts.

So it goes. Justice, blindfold, holding her scales weighted on one side with order, social pressure, and the Law, on the other, by all the earthly, undisciplined forces of humanity, which, in ignorance and passion, tripped over the fences erected for their own protection.

Pinehurst Paragraphs

Mr. and Mrs. Heman Gifford and two daughters, Sally and Ellen arrived this week from Millbrook, N. Y., and are at their cottage, Little Brick, for the remainder of the season. Their son Billy is attending the Taft School at Watertown, Conn.

T. S. Van Namen went to New York Sunday night.

Miss Fannie B. Gray who fell at her home Saturday morning and broke her right wrist, is convalescing at her home after several days stay in the Moore County Hospital.

Miss Thelma Bliss, who is teaching in Burlington was the week-end guest of her aunt, Mrs. William H. Parkinson.

Miss Olive Hennessee, with her guest, Miss Sara Ramseur, has returned to Woman's College at Greensboro.

Mr. and Mrs. George D. Murphy of New York have arrived and are at their home, Mayflower, for the remainder of the season.

Mr. and Mrs. Lansing B. Warner of Chicago have arrived and are at their home.

Mrs. David Coffey is entertaining the Friday afternoon bridge club at her home today.

Martin Wicker went to Duke Hospital, Durham Wednesday for examination.

Mrs. Redel McGill is visiting in Montreal, Canada.

Joseph V. McKee, former acting mayor of New York, was a week-end guest at the Todd cottage.

Misses Lillian More and Bess Arnold Tillman, with Mrs. Clarence Thomas and Mrs. Lloyd Tate made up a table of bridge at the Hazelwood Thursday afternoon.

Miss Verdyn Shaw has returned home from the Moore County Hospital.

Holland Shaw of the Marine Corps, stationed at the Torpedo Naval Base, Newport, R. I., is home for several months.

James Tufts spent the week-end in Cartersville, Ga.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hornblower have returned from Florida.

Mrs. George M. Dunn, assisted by her daughter, Mrs. I. T. Wyche of Fort Bragg entertained at tea Friday at her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Swaringen are entertaining their card club at their home Friday evening.

Mrs. Richard E. Gibbon, who have been the guest of the Rev. and Mrs. A. J. McKelway at the Manse since Christmas, departed Saturday for her home in Jacksonville, Fla.

The annual dinner of the Sandhill Brotherhood, the men's Bible class of the Community Church, was held at the church Wednesday evening. A delicious meal was served by the

Home Economics class of the public school under the direction of the teacher, Mrs. Robert Shaw, Jr. During dinner Meredith Herndon, Willard L. Dunlop, A. J. McKelway and Dr. Robret Shepard, sang several spirituals. Following dinner the Rev. Hewitt Fulton of Laurinburg made a short talk on, "What Is Right With The Church."

Outgoing officers are W. Raymond Johnson, president; Gordon Cameron, vice president; Robert Shaw, Jr., secretary and treasurer and W. L. Cunningham, teacher. Newly elected officers are Byron U. Richardson, officers are Byron U. Richardson, ident; Roderic Innes, secretary and treasurer; and J. W. Harbison, teacher.

Special guests of the class were members of the Ladies' Bible class.

CHURCHES

"Spirit" is the subject of the lesson-sermon at the Christian Science Church, East New Hampshire avenue, Sunday morning at 11:00 o'clock. Sunday School meets at the same time at the church.

At the Church of Wide Fellowship on Sunday services will be held as follows: 9:45, Church School; 11:00, Morning Worship, with special music by the Young People's Choir and sermon by the pastor on the theme, "Our Debts;" 6:30, the Youth Fellowship League for high school young people; 7:00, the Fellowship Forum, an evening service for all conducted by the older young people; 8:00, Evening Service of Worship. The Rev. A. J. McKelway, pastor of the Pinehurst Community church, will preach.

At the Sunday evening service of the Fellowship Forum, held at 7:00 o'clock in the Church of Wide Fellowship, the speaker will be Mrs. George Sells, of Johnson City, Tenn. Mrs. Sells is a teacher in the Bible Federation Club of that city, and the meeting promises to be a particularly helpful one. Evelyn Edson is in charge. The public is cordially invited.

At Emmanuel Episcopal Church on Sunday, (Septuagesima). Church School will be at 9:30 a. m. and Holy Communion and sermon at 11:00 a. m.

At the Baptist Church Sunday morning the text of the sermon of the Rev. J. Fred Stimson will be, "The Strength of Sin is the Law."

Pilot Want Ads are becoming increasingly popular because advertisers are getting results. They are one cent a word, minimum 25 cents.

Ex-Regulars Invited To Join Army Reserve

Changes in Regulations Made To Build Up Corps To 75,000—No Loss in Grade

The campaign inaugurated by the War Department to secure enlistments in the newly established Regular Army Reserve has been considerably accelerated by recent changes made in regulations. Reservists are now permitted to enlist in the grade held by them when discharged from the Regular Army. Only soldiers who have been honorably discharged from the Regular Army after at least one year of service and are under 36 years of age and physically qualified are eligible for membership. The fact that a soldier is married or has dependents does not deny him the privilege of joining this organization.

The Regular Army Reserve was established to provide immediate reinforcements for the Army in the event of a national emergency declared by the President of the United States. Its membership is limited to ex-regulars only. In other words, soldiers who have received their training as enlisted men in the Regular Army. No further training is required of these men who have returned to civil life. The period of enlistment in the reserve is for four years and those who join may be assured that their civil occupations will not be interfered with by requirements or examinations.

Every member receives an enlistment allowance of two dollars per month payable every four months. The men who joined in September have recently received their checks for eight dollars. If a national

emergency is declared by the President, an individual who is accepted for active duty enters immediately the full pay and allowances status of any soldier of the Regular Army of like grade and length of active duty service and will receive an additional sum at the rate of \$3.00 per month for each month he has been a member of the Reserve, but not to exceed a total of \$150.00. To many ex-regulars, membership in this unit of our national defense offers a fine opportunity to maintain their standing in the service while no military duties are required of them.

The Regular Army Reserve will be built up to 75,000 men as rapidly as possible. Latest reports intimate that this Corps Area stands well at the top of the campaign to obtain enlistments. All ex-service men in North Carolina are urged to join us before the quota is filled. Detailed information may be secured at the nearest Army Recruiting Station or by writing to the Commanding General, Fort Bragg, N. C.

COUNTY ASKS MORE TIME TO COMPLETE NURSES' HOME

The Board of County Commissioners met Monday and passed a resolution requesting the Federal Emergency Administration to extend the time for the completion of the Moore County Hospital Nurses' Home 60 days. Unavoidable delays caused by late delivery of certain material and in changes in construction were set forth as the reasons for the request. The original contract which was entered into in August called for the completion of the building in 150 days.

TWO MACHINES HERE FOR ABERDEEN HOSIERY MILL

Two full-fashioned hosiery machines for the new Crystal Hosiery mill in Aberdeen arrived at the plant this week and are now being installed by engineers. These machines weigh nine tons each and it will take ten days to two weeks to set them up ready for operation.

Two machines per week will arrive here until ten or twelve are ready for operation. At an early date notice will be given by the company as to when and where applicants for employment at the plant will be interviewed. It is understood that some local persons will be given employment.

MRS. MCGRAW TO READ

The Women's Society of the Church of Wide Fellowship will meet Wednesday, February 8, in the church parlor at 3:00 o'clock. Mrs. Thomas H. McGraw of Aberdeen will read.

PREACHED HERE SUNDAY

Dr. John W. Bradbury of New York, a recent guest in Pinehurst, was the interesting preacher at the Southern Pines Baptist Church last Sunday evening.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

A marriage license has been issued from the office of the Register of Deeds of Moore county to William Lewis Atkins and Ella Frances Pickard, both of Sanford.

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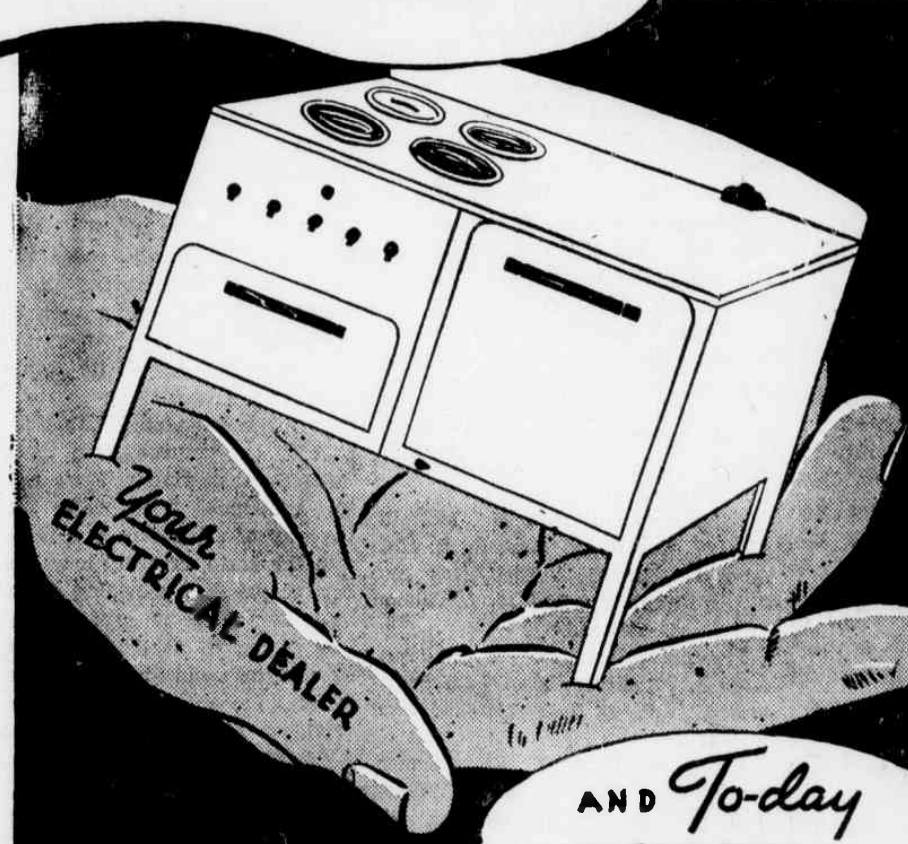
Yes, your Electrical Dealer can equip your home so that you can enjoy Electrical Living to the fullest extent . . . visit his store and see the many attractive, useful and economical Electrical Household Helps . . . learn about the surprisingly low prices and easy terms . . . it will pay you to see your Electrical Dealer without delay!

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Again CHEAP ELECTRICITY COSTS YOU LESS