

Negotiations On Air School Lease Are Continuing

Purchase Proposal Abandoned; Rental Plan Seems Likely

Negotiations on a lease agreement that is expected to keep the USAF Air-Ground Operations School in Southern Pines were continuing in Washington this week between representatives of the Defense Department and the Stitzer Hotel Co., owners of the Highland Pines Inn in which the school is now located.

Members of the citizens committee working on the effort to retain the school said this week that the current negotiations do not involve a proposed plan for community financial participation to purchase the Inn property jointly with the government. The current lease expires June 30 and the school had been preparing to be transferred to Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Miss.

Brig. Gen. Daniel W. Jenkins, commandant at the school, said this week that he had no official announcement to make about the status of the school, but that he will release information when it is received and when he is authorized to do so.

He said that an announcement, attributed to the Air Force, that the school would stay in Southern Pines was publicly quoted last week without his authorization.

Grant Given New Amerotron Post

Al Grant has been appointed vice president and manager of Area C of Amerotron, according to a report received Thursday from the office of the president of the company, Robert L. Huffines, Jr.

Area C is the term used to designate the southern plants of the great textile empire. With the announcement of his appointment, came the news that Mr. Grant is expected to report at his new headquarters in Anderson, S. C., Monday.

Besides the South Carolina plants, formerly under Textron Area C includes the former American Woolen plant at Tifton, Ga. Under his new assignment, Mr. Grant will hold the same position in Area C as that now occupied by Frank T. Roberts in the mid-south division that includes the mills at Aberdeen, Raeford, Red Springs and Robbins.

Mr. Grant held the position of general manager of manufacturing for Robbins Mills before the merger of that company with Textron and American Woolen to form the Amerotron Company. He has been living in Southern Pines, where he and Mrs. Grant have played a leading part in civic and church work in the community.

PLANNING CONVENTION

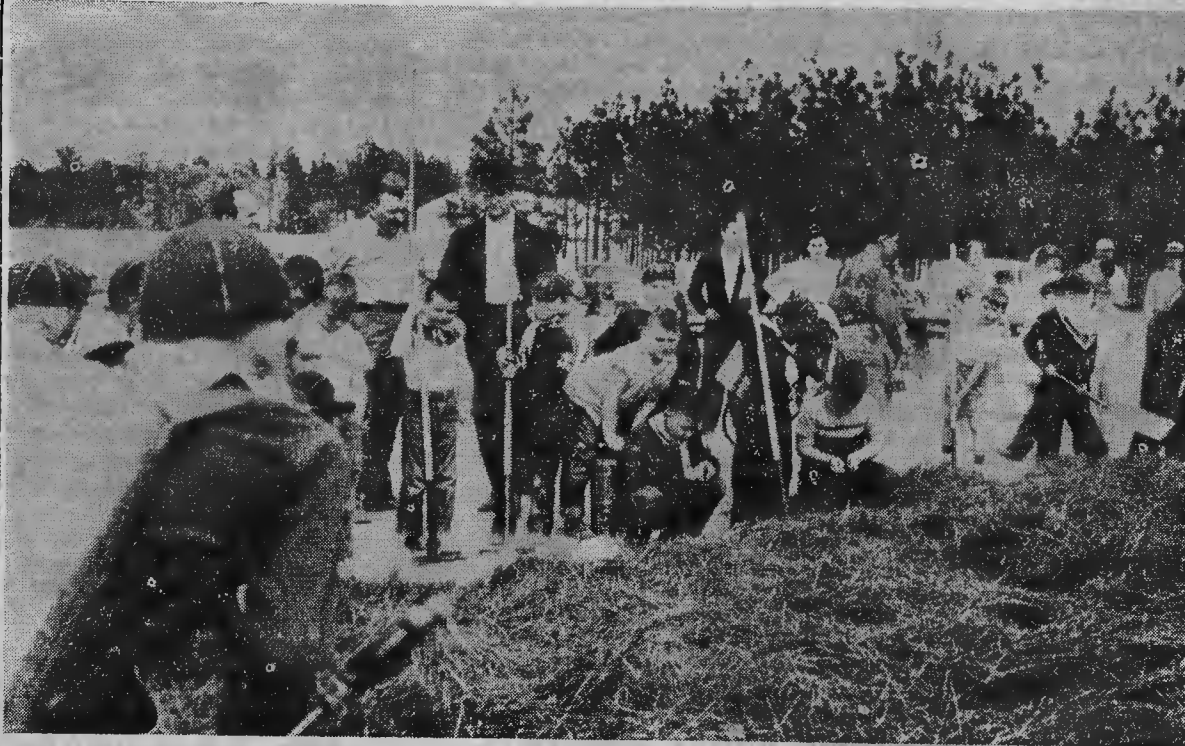
Russell J. Lorenson, president of the North Carolina Society of Accountants, is meeting today (Friday) and Saturday with the convention committee at the Robert E. Lee hotel in Winston-Salem to make final plans for the 1955 state convention.

TAG DAY

Saturday, the day before Mother's Day, tags will be sold in all county towns for the benefit of the work carried on by the Moore County Maternal Welfare Committee.

The committee cooperates with the Moore County Health and Welfare Departments. Funds raised on Tag Day support a free bed always available for needy mothers at Moore County Hospital; also, provide extra machine and help to clinic patients and pay the tuition and expenses of midwives attending special training institutes.

In Southern Pines, tables by the post office and bank will be manned Saturday morning by members of the local committee under the chairmanship of Mrs. L. T. Avery.



LEARNING FIRE FIGHTING—Cub Scouts from packs in Southern Pines, Aberdeen, Pinebluff, Carthage and West End got a practical lesson in fighting woods fires Saturday afternoon when, under direction of Forest Service personnel, they set and then brought under control a blaze in an area of deeply spread pine straw at the town dump near the fire tower, off Morganton road. The top photo shows Moore County Warden Travis Wicker and District Warden David Drexel (standing, left-center) as Cubs kneel to apply lighted matches to the pine needles. Other boys stand ready with rakes, flaps and at lower left, hand pumps operated

from tanks of water on their backs. Parents and others watch in the background.

The lower photo shows how the Cubs made a fire lane and stopped the blaze, on instructions from Drexel. The fire is burning in rapidly from the left of the photo, but the boys stopped it. Warden Wicker can be seen at the end of the lane watching closely and with amused admiration for the boys' valiant efforts. The Cub in the foreground is working one of the hand pumps. The afternoon's activity ended with a climb up the tower, to see how fires are spotted and located. Only a fraction of the boys present are shown in these pictures. (Pilot Staff Photos)

Need Cited For Special Child Welfare Worker

A recommendation that a child welfare worker be added to the staff of the Moore County Welfare Department was made to the county commissioners Monday by Mrs. Walter B. Cole of Carthage, welfare superintendent.

The commissioners, in session at the courthouse for their regular monthly meeting, took the request under advisement. Chairman Gordon Cameron said the matter would be taken up at the June meeting (Monday, June 6) when formal presentation of the welfare department's budget for the next fiscal year will be made.

To illustrate the need for a child welfare worker, Mrs. Cole cited a family she had visited recently:

"The mother was drunk under the bed. The father was drunk in the woods. A boy friend was drunk on the bed and there were eight children out of school."

"Two of these children are too (Continued on page 8)

SCHOOL ELECTION REGISTRATION SET

Registration for a school tax election May 24 is required by all persons who wish to vote in the election.

The question is whether the local school tax is to be raised two cents—from 48 cents to 50 cents per \$100 of property valuation.

The registration books are now open and registration will continue through Saturday of next week, May 14. Residents of the Southern Pines school district—which extends beyond the city limits—are eligible to vote.

For details of the election and why Southern Pines school trustees are asking for a vote, see page 22.

Bill Would Extend Vass Police Power

A bill to extend the authority of police officers at Vass to the territory within one mile of the town limits in all directions was introduced in the General Assembly this week by Rep. H. Clifton Blue of Aberdeen, at the request of Mayor A. G. Edwards, Jr.

Budget Requests Of County Schools Run To \$565,188

A 1955-56 county school system budget totalling \$565,188.91 was presented to the county commissioners Monday by the county board of education.

The commissioners will consider the proposed budget in allotting school expenditures by the county system in the 1955-56 fiscal year which will begin July 1.

J. A. Culbertson of Robbins, chairman of the county board of education, and other board members headed a delegation that included school principals and local school committeemen from nearly every district in the county, a total of some 25 or 30 persons, nearly all of whom took part in a discussion of school needs that lasted nearly two hours.

The requested funds include: \$400,659.28 for capital outlay (construction and furnishing of new buildings); \$124,359.63 for current expense (alteration, additions to (Continued on page 8)

ELKS TO HONOR MOTHERS SUNDAY

The annual Mothers Day ceremony conducted by the Southern Pines Elks Lodge will take place at 3 p. m. Sunday, at the Country Club, it was announced this week.

The Rev. C. K. Ligon, pastor of Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church, will speak briefly. There will be special music.

Members of the Does will serve refreshments and children accompanied by their mothers will be given ice cream.

The ceremony is open to the public. Mothers of this area are especially invited to attend.

Baseball Tourney Schedules Drawn

Schedules for the Moore County High School baseball tournament were drawn up Wednesday in a meeting of coaches at Carthage, with play to begin Tuesday.

Two separate tentative schedules were made—one with Carthage and one without Carthage. If Carthage wins in a State Class A playoff against Mount Gilead at Carthage Friday, the county seat team will not be in the Moore tournament. If Carthage loses Friday, the schedule including Carthage will be adopted.

First game for Southern Pines, on either schedule, will be at Memorial Field at 8 p. m., Friday, May 13. The opponent will be

West End or Vass-Lakeview, according to which schedule is used.

In any case, both semi-finals games, one on May 17 and one on May 18, and the finals Friday night, May 20, will be played under lights at Memorial Field here, the coaches decided.

Knights Defeat Pinehurst

The Southern Pines Blue Knights defeated Pinehurst 21-14 here Wednesday night and were to play their final game of the regular season against Robbins Thursday night at the local field.

The Knights trimmed Aberdeen 8-4 Saturday night. (Photo of local team on page 12 today).

Council Names Gilmore As Mayor In First Meeting After Election

Pethick Chosen Mayor Pro Tem, Blue Treasurer

Voit Gilmore was elected mayor as the newly elected town council was sworn in and held its first session at noon Wednesday.

Around the council table, as chosen Tuesday in an election that recorded a record turnout of 1,214 voters, were Walter E. Blue, retiring Mayor Lloyd T. Clark and Gilmore, all former board members; and Harry H. Pethick and T. T. Morse, new members. Morse is the first Negro elected to office in Southern Pines.

Voting for mayor by the five councilmen was by secret ballot, by choice of the group.

Gilmore was nominated by Pethick and Blue was nominated by Clark. The voting ran three for Gilmore and two for Blue.

Voting Tuesday to pick five councilmen from 10 candidates, citizens of Southern Pines accorded the winners the following votes:

Blue	674
Gilmore	594
Pethick	580
Clark	530
Morse	486

The other candidates, with the vote each polled were: Brig. Gen. Pearson Menoher, 456; Bryan Poe, 450; James D. Hobbs, 406; Harry W. Chatfield, Jr., 297; and D. G. Stutz, 138.

Other actions taken by the new council in its first meeting were election of Councilman Pethick as mayor pro tem and Councilman Blue as town treasurer, a post he has held under the past administration.

In choosing by open ballot the

Academy Property Placed On Market At \$125,000 Price

The Notre Dame Academy property on Youngs Road near Southern Pines was placed on the market this week at \$125,000.

Previously announced plans call for moving the elementary unit of the Academy to a new building now under construction in Southern Pines and the high school unit to a new Catholic high school to be opened in the former St. Leo's Hospital building, Greensboro.

Formerly the Walter Hollowell estate, the property consists of 250 acres, the main school building—formerly a residence—separate auditorium, separate chapel, two gate houses, other buildings and a lake.

Of the total acreage, 170 surrounds the buildings and 80 are located across Youngs Road.

The property is offered through all local real estate agents. Announcement of the intention to sell was made to a group of agents called to the Academy this week.

ONLY \$38 NEEDED

Mrs. J. S. Milliken, chairwoman of the Southern Pines drive of the Moore County chapter of the American Cancer Society said this week that she lacked only \$38 of meeting the town's \$600 goal. She appealed for final contributions that will put the campaign over the top. Contributions should be sent to Mrs. Milliken at Box 55, Southern Pines.

Auto Dealers Convened At Carolina

Several Moore County automobile dealers are on committees helping to direct activities at the 20th annual convention of the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association which opened yesterday (Thursday) and will run through Saturday at the Carolina Hotel in Pinehurst.

N. W. Phillips of Southern Pines is chairman of the Golf Committee whose other members are Aubrey Johnson and W. S. Taylor of Aberdeen. The Association's golf tournament began Thursday and continued through today.

T. Roy Phillips of Carthage is a member of the Nominating Committee and T. L. Black of Pinehurst is on the Convention City

mayor pro tem and town treasurer, Mr. Blue was at first elected to the mayor pro tem post, but said that, although he appreciated the honor, he felt he could best serve the town as treasurer, rather than mayor pro tem. Mr. Pethick added that he felt he might not be as readily available as treasurer as Mr. Blue, who owns a downtown business, for the frequent signing of checks that is one of the treasurer's duties. The problem was solved when Gilmore changed his vote from Blue to Pethick for mayor pro tem. Then Blue was elected unanimously to the treasurer's post.

A gathering of nearly 50 persons witnessed the swearing in of

the councilmen by Town Clerk Louis Scheipers, Jr. The swearing-in was preceded by the last meeting of the old council with Blue, Clark and Gilmore at the table and retiring Councilmen C. S. Patch, Jr., and Joe O'Callaghan not present. The council formally certified the returns of the primary and the regular election and then adjourned.

The new mayor, 37 years old, is president of the W. M. Storey Lumber Co. Blue is owner and operator of The Modern Market on Broad St. Clark is the proprietor of Clark's Funeral Home. Pethick is a retired oil company executive and Morse is an insurance agent.

DRAWS AUTOMATIC ON OFFICER

Wounded Man Remains In Critical Condition After Hospital Shooting

Willie Junior Smith, 25, an employee of the White Swan night club in Taylortown, near Pinehurst, remained in critical condition at St. Joseph of the Pines Hospital Thursday noon, from bullet wounds received when he was shot by Sgt. H. V. Chandler, Jr., of the Southern Pines police department early Wednesday morning.

Police Chief C. E. Newton said that Chandler shot Smith when the latter drew an automatic pis-

tol from his belt as Chandler attempted to search him at the door of the emergency room of the hospital. Only the fact that the handle of an automatic has to be squeezed before it will fire saved Chandler's life, Chief Newton believes.

Shot in the abdomen, then downward through the chest as he spun around, Smith fell through the door of the emergency room at the foot of the operating table where a doctor and a nurse were working on his reported girl friend, Queen Esther Hardy, 21, who had been shot a short time before, Chief Newton said.

As the doctor and nurse turned from the first patient to the second, administering glucose as he appeared to be in a dying condition, officers said Smith muttered to the Hardy woman, "Hold my hand, Honey."

Officer H. V. Chandler asked him, "Why did you shoot her?" And Smith answered, "Because she was cutting out on me."

Smith was taken to another operating room.

Chandler said he and Officer M. B. Stout, both on night duty, went to the hospital to investigate a call that a girl had been brought in with bullet wounds. Stout remained downstairs, talking with Booker T. Wright, proprietor of the White Swan, who owned the car in which Smith had brought (Continued on Page 8)

Officials For Moore Towns Are Elected

Mayors and town commissioners were elected Tuesday in Aberdeen, Pinebluff, Vass, Carthage, and Robbins. All the new officials will serve two-year terms.

The results: **Aberdeen** Dr. E. M. Medlin, unopposed in his bid for mayor, received 129 votes.

Elected to the Town Council were Ralph Leach, 128; N. A. Pleasants, 124; J. J. Greer, 115; M. B. Pleasants, 113; and George D. Anderson, 87.

Defeated Town Board candidates were Lee Buchan, 82, and Gene Lawrence, 25.

Of 448 registered voters, 144 went to the polls. **Pinebluff**

Mayor E. H. Mills unopposed received 80 votes. Elected to the three-member board of commissioners were two incumbents—Mrs. Victoria M. Cleary, 75; and Harold A. Payson, 82—and Harry L. Howie who polled 77 votes. Incumbent Gordon Keith received 17 votes, losing his seat on the board.

Each getting one write-in for mayor were: E. J. Austin, Brady Brooks, Harry L. Howie, Gordon Keith and Dan Mangum.

Receiving one write-in each for commissioner were: I. L. Meanor, E. J. Austin and W. K. Carpenter, Sr.

Carthage A total of 391 of the town's 650 registered voters went to the polls as Mayor A. L. Barnes, with 252, defeated J. L. Kirby with 126. (Continued on Page 8)

BANKS TO CLOSE

The Citizens Bank and Trust Co. and other banks in the county will close Tuesday of next week, May 10, in observance of Confederate Memorial Day.

Parade To Open Girl Scout Rally

A rally for Girl Scouts of the three-county Central Carolina Council will begin in Southern Pines Saturday morning when the girls will gather in parade formation on New York Avenue, near the park at 10:30 a. m.

At 11, they will parade up one side of Broad St. to Connecticut Ave. and down the other side to the starting point and will then go to Pinebluff Lake for the other rally events.

Attending will be some 200 girls from troops in Moore, Chatham and Harnett Counties, with their adult leaders.

School Band Will Play In Public Concert Tonight

The Southern Pines School Band, under the direction of Lynn H. Ledden, will present its fourth annual Spring concert tonight (Friday) in Weaver Auditorium at 8:15 p. m.

The program is planned for audience appeal as well as for the technical advancement of the band, the director said, pointing out that "there is something on the program for everyone." There will be a small admission charge.

Officers of the band are: James Prim, student band director; Donald Walter, concert master; John Chappell, drill sergeant; and Thomas Vann, drum sergeant.

The Band Boosters Club, adult organization of parents and other interested persons, will hold open house for members of the band and their friends in the school cafeteria after the concert.