

## Colored Man Lost In River Swamp Is Found Tuesday

### Robert Bond Was at Point of Exhaustion When Fishing Party Finds Him

Lost in the vast Roanoke River swamp in Martin County for seven days, Robert Bond, 20-year-old Bertie colored man, was found Tuesday after suffering untold hardships and almost in a state of exhaustion. Driven almost crazy and having the appearance of a wild man, Bond would not have been able to stand on his feet much longer, John O'Connor, J. D. Newton and Woolard Manning, his rescuers, said.

Fishing along the banks of Speller's Creek, O'Connor saw the man staggering through the woods. "I thought it was a wild man at first. His clothes were in rags and he was almost covered in mud and blood. He could hardly talk," O'Connor said. Frightened by the gruesome sight, O'Connor ran to join the other members of the party, and Bond followed and the three began to question him. Apparently frightened half to death, the colored man finally muttered he was lost, that he was perished.

Taking him in their boat the three men carried him across the river and gave him some food at short intervals. After resting several hours, the man began to talk, and wanted to know what day it was, and muttering he recalled his name and told a few of his harrowing experiences in the swamp.

The fishing party, accidentally running into the man in the swamp, came down from Tarboro early in the day to fish in Speller's Creek, ending a search that had been carried on under the direction of Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and large numbers of farmers from Martin and Bertie Counties.

The boy's mother, Lucy Bond, was overjoyed and the boy's father, Luke Bond, was said to have wept with joy when they learned the boy had been found alive.

Still unable to sleep except during short intervals, Bond is gradually regaining himself and recalling his wanderings in the swamp in detail.

"A storm came up Wednesday afternoon, and when I started to come out of the swamp I soon realized I was lost," Bond was quoted as saying. "I was not greatly worried until the following morning when I heard a strange horn," Bond continued, explaining that he thought "it was some wild animal coming in his direction. The searchers sounded the old Conk horn, and each blast sent him deeper into the swamp until he lost its sound."

Sleeping hardly longer than fifteen minutes at a time, the man wandered aimlessly until Saturday morning when searchers, using a boat with a siren on it almost ran him to death. "I thought it was a panther cat after me, and I ran first in one direction and then in another, spending an occasional hour high up in the tree tops."

Coming out at Jordan's Landing, Bond, thinking it was a hunting lodge and that he would be shot, returned to the swamps.

During his seven days in the swamp, Bond caught and ate three birds and two fish raw. He found and ate a few briar berries, but last Monday he had about exhausted himself and he ate leaves, O'Connor, one of his rescuers, stating that the man actually peeled the skin from his bruised and swollen feet and ate it.

There is no way of determining how many miles the man traveled, but he was found more than seven miles from the point where he first entered the swamp with his father and two other companions. During his wanderings, he swam Devil's Gut and waded in water above his waist.

Wednesday, Bond recalled a dream he had during one of his fifteen-minute naps. "I dreamed my father had bought me a big pound of cheese, a raisin bun and a big nickel drink," he said, adding that he was crazily disappointed when he awakened and found he had only been dreaming.

## Jamesville Boys Expert Swimmers

Respectfully called herrings, the Jamesville youths continue to live up to the name, reports from the town stating that several of the youngsters took to the Roanoke there a few days ago and developed a heated swimming contest. Taking to the water like ducks and swimming like herrings, the boys broke record after record until Henry C. Walters swam the stream 26 times to establish a record no others would attempt to break.

Jesse James Bowen started the contest when he swam the stream 20 times without a single rest period. A. J. Holliday followed him and added four trips to the record. Walters then set the record by a two-point margin over Holliday's feat.

R. Jackson tackled the 350-foot wide channel with a firm determination but climbed out of the muddy water after sixteen trips across the stream.

## Warrants Issued Under Law Requiring Dog Vaccinations

Charged with failing to comply with the State law requiring the vaccination of all dogs, twenty-two Martin County dog owners face action in the courts, it was learned from the office of Justice J. L. Hassell following the wholesale issuance of warrants here yesterday. The drive against the alleged violators of the particular law is centered in Jamesville, Williams, Bear Grass and Williamston Townships, reliable reports from the office of the sheriff stating that the drive would be extended into other districts just as soon as the first batch of warrants could be served.

The warrants are returnable before Justice Hassell in his office here on Saturday of next week when it is likely that 35 or 40 dog owners will be made subject to fines and costs and ordered to vaccinate or kill their dogs in accordance with the dictates of the law.

Asked about the wholesale issuance of the warrants, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck said yesterday that it is possible that some of those charged with violating the particular law had had their dogs vaccinated in the names of their children or other members of the family. Owners were urged to give their names in having the dogs vaccinated, but it is believed that a few did not and the resulting complication will have to be straightened out in court.

Warrants were issued yesterday against the following: George L. Hardison, Leonard Hunter, Robert Gee, J. H. Jackson, Ed Beel and Eddie Boston, all of Jamesville Township; Wiley Lanier, Ransom Knight Williams and John Henry Moore, all of Williams Township; Spencer Pippen, Garfield Manning, Andrew Hudgins, Cleo Ebron, Clint Davis, Nathaniel Boston and Raymond Bowen, all of Bear Grass Township; Lottie Outerbridge, Augie Outerbridge, L. D. Mizelle, James A. Hassell, Oscar Biggs and Walter R. Biggs, all of Williamston Township.

## SHUT-DOWN

Operations at the municipal pool here will be discontinued four days next week, it was announced today by Manager R. J. Parker, who explained that the water would be turned out Sunday night to allow painters to paint the pool.

A delayed paint shipment would have made it impossible to open the pool on June 1, and it was decided then to wait until early July to handle the job.

With favorable weather, the pool should be painted and reopened by next Friday.

## Pulp Mill Union States Position In Its Long Strike

### Company Proposals Rejected By Vote of About 399 to One, Reports Say

The strike at Delair, N. J., continues to hold the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company in the lower part of this county idle. Following a conference a few days ago, union representatives issued a statement expressing the stand of their organizations.

The text of the statement issued to the press by a committee of three men, representing the three unions involved in the strike, following publication of the company's letter to employees in which it was said the major obstacle in the way of effecting a settlement was the "union shop" issue, follows:

"The refusal of the company to recognize the bargaining units chosen by the employees of the Kieckhefer plant, brought to a head the unrest and dissatisfaction felt by them for several years. This dissatisfaction, occasioned by such things as reduction in pay, shorter hours owing to the speed-up of the machinery, withdrawal of vacations, seven-day operation with no overtime provision, and the mishandling of seniority rights, resulted in a withdrawal from work and was the real cause of the strike."

"The union shop is not the only issue involved at present. The strikers feel that the abuses which have occasioned the several strikes in the past few years necessitate some satisfactory working basis that will insure harmonious relations in the future."

"Through the several conferences, propositions have been submitted by both parties and have been considered by the workers in mass meetings, but the fundamental issues as yet have not been definitely settled. However, progress is being made, and the workers hope for a satisfactory solution in the near future."

"The local committee wishes to state further that there has been no violence of any kind in the past, nor will there be any in the future. We firmly believe in the fairness of our request and will continue to use all peaceful and orderly means to obtain a final settlement."

## Big Fox Hunt Is Held In County

With a pack of eighty hounds, a large number of hunters successfully invaded the lair of the fox in Hamilton Township last Tuesday, the big hunt being climaxed by a barbecue dinner.

Coming here from Wake and Franklin Counties, a number of the hunters were joined by followers of the sport here and the hunt was soon underway. However, at the close of the hunt it was found that the hunters had hardly broken even with the fox. Seven of the animals were killed or captured and seven dogs were lost during the day.

Reports state that the fox is making some heavy raids in farmers' chicken houses in that section, and that the animals are numerous.

## Marked Changes In Leaf Marketing Act Are Made By House

### Action Will Shift Allotments From Poundage To An Acreage Basis

The House of Representatives yesterday made sweeping changes in tobacco control program and all but placed it on the shelf, according to comment coming from reliable sources. Receiving little attention from the House membership, the bill calling for the marked changes went through the legislative hopper in a hurry, proponents of the amendments anticipating early passage in the Senate.

A joker was attached to the huge tobacco bill joke as it traveled through the House in a hurry and without attracting a smile. With storage houses bulging with tobacco and a gracious plenty now in the making, the agriculture committee suggested that the secretary of agriculture be empowered to increase the national quota 10 per cent not later than the end of the year in which the quota was proclaimed. Briefly stated, the amendments, while subject to action in the Senate yesterday lowered the control bars and then made provision for a ten per cent increase on top of all that.

The proposals, approved some time ago by members of Congress from tobacco-growing states, would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convert poundage allotments into acres. This would permit growers in the event of imposition of quotas to market penalty-free all tobacco produced on allotted acreage.

Then penalties for non-compliance with quotas would be changed from 50 per cent of the sales price to 10 cents a pound for flue-cured tobacco and five cents for burley and other types.

The date for calling farmer elections on tobacco quotas would be changed from November 15 as stipulated in the present law to any time during the marketing season which begins as early as July in the case of flue-cured tobacco.

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## Holiday Marked By Quiet Observance In Martin County

### Long Holiday Period Costs 613 Their Lives in The Nation

More than 600 people forfeited their lives on the highways, at the beaches, in the air and in various other places during the long holiday period set aside by the nation for the observance of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Despite a concerted drive for a safe and sane Fourth of July, the death toll climbed above the figure a year ago, the automobile leading in the ghastly work with 278 deaths to its credit in 48 states.

The long holiday period was quietly observed in the county the police blotters showing only three arrests, one in Williamston and two in Robersonville. A drunken driver was picked up on a Williamston street, and the two arrested in Robersonville were booked for the illegal possession of liquor for the purpose of sale.

Scattered over a four-day period, traffic was not unusually heavy at any one time on the roads in this section, but the total travel was reported greater than that of a year ago.

The county's safety record was blotted when a small colored girl was killed in Poplar Point late Saturday night as the holiday period was getting underway full blast. No other accidents were reported in the county, however. Traveling in other sections one or two Martin County people were in accidents, but they were not injured.

According to incomplete reports, the nation's death toll for the period was placed at 613 with the possibility that the figure would show an increase as complete records are filed. Already the number of holiday deaths is 100 greater than the number a year ago.

Thronging of beaches by merry-making millions accounted for the second highest number of fatalities—183 drownings. Trains killed 29 persons. There were 36 fatal shootings, eight plane deaths and 79 dead in miscellaneous accidents.

Two fireworks deaths were caused by the premature explosion of home-made bombs or firecrackers. Hildred Sowers, 14, of Marlin, Tex. died after a piece of tin, blown from a can placed over a firecracker, severed his jugular vein.

Ironically, Edward Fisher, 21, of Chicago, who was studying to be a safety engineer, was killed when his auto skidded off a road in Michigan. His father, Dr. H. E. Fisher, is secretary of the National Safety Council.

In the largest group tragedy six West Virginians, including three children, were killed when their light sedan and a bus collided near Washington, Pa.

Texas led the death list with 41, followed by California with 39. North Carolina reported an even dozen killed as compared with 17 in Virginia and 10 in South Carolina. The automobile death list in this State was slightly under the 1938 record, incomplete reports show.

## Christian Endeavor Group Is Organized

Last Friday a convention of young people of the Church of Christ for Martin County was held at Sweet Home church. Various churches throughout the county were represented.

The morning devotionals was conducted by Miss Marie Harrison, the welcome by Herbert Williams, Jr., and the response by Clayton Revels. J. D. Taylor addressed the convention in connection with its purpose and conducted the service pertaining to the installation of officers. H. D. Harrison, Jr., was elected president of the convention; Miss Mae Swinson, secretary; William Leggett, treasurer; and Miss Polly Bailey, assistant secretary. Rev. John Goff preached a very forceful sermon on "Youth's Leadership" in the morning session and after observance of the Lord's Prayer, the convention recessed for luncheon on the grounds.

Miss Polly Bailey conducted the afternoon devotional and addresses by Rev. J. M. Perry and Dr. H. S. Hilley featured the afternoon session. The adult advisor of the young people's work, J. D. Taylor, made a short address and Mr. Clayton Revels also addressed the convention, in which address he pointed out the advantages of such an organization.

The next convention will meet with the Dardens' church of Christ the last Friday in October.

## Bureau Committee In Meeting Here

Meeting in executive session here yesterday, the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation directorship discussed a number of farm problems. The session was held behind closed doors and no official report on the discussions could be had.

It is understood, however, that the committee considered plans for urging an early referendum on tobacco control, the farm leaders anticipating a change in the basic principles of the marketing control act. Market opening dates and selling periods were also said to have been discussed by the group.

Coming here shortly before noon, the officials of the organization had dinner at the Sunny Side Inn and held a three-hour meeting in the agricultural building.

The group was headed by J. E. Winslow, president, and E. F. Arnold, secretary of the organization which has more than 500 members in this county.

Mr. Robert Parrisher, Williams Township farmer, was removed to a Washington hospital last yesterday for treatment. He first applied for treatment at a Durham hospital, but there wasn't room for him there.

## Town Commissioners Sound Economy Note

### Propose Shake-up In Police Force In The Near Future

Administrative Organization Is Effected For The Next Two Years

Confronted with an almost depleted treasury and not certain of their own pay for the past year, the local town commissioners in session last Wednesday night sounded an economy note that will possibly result in the curtailment of the police force and sizeable reductions in appropriations for other departments. Holding their first official meeting since the first Monday evening in April, the authorities were in session nearly three hours effecting a reorganization of the town's official family and discussing various problems, including a long study of the law enforcement department.

With applications filed by all members of the old police force and by J. D. Harrison, the board advanced the economy note when it was suggested that no new members should be added and that all the old members were to be re-elected for two-year terms subject to recall within a month's notice. No definite action was taken, but it was intimated that the police problem will be given a detailed study with the possibility of reducing the force to four members, two at night and two for day duty. Salaries were discussed but increases were hardly considered during the long session.

The organization for the next two years is, as follows: V. D. Godwin, mayor protem; G. H. Harrison, clerk; N. C. Green, treasurer; R. E. Manning, superintendent of the water and street departments. The election of G. P. Hall as fire chief by the fire company membership was confirmed.

The rate of pay for commissioners will continue the same, the treasurer explaining that payment of salaries for the past fiscal year might be delayed.

Receiving a report on the swimming pool operations for the first month, the commissioners granted small increases in the salaries of employees. During the past month, receipts at the pool amounted to \$712.50 and operating expenses totaled \$178.30 including light bill and salaries.

A contract was let to Greathouse and Butler for the annual audit, the commissioners agreeing on a price of \$150. The audit is to be completed during the month of July.

Requested to refund licenses on slot machines that had been moved, the commissioners refused to grant the request. To date, the town has collected approximately \$170 from slot-machine owners operating in the county.

In connection with the town audit, the board ordered an audit of the firemen's relief fund, the auditing firm to surrender a complete report.

Pointing out he had effected an increase of \$71,845 in the town property listings, list-taker H. M. Buras asked for a \$25 increase over the contract price. No additional amount was allowed.

A new ordinance was passed authorizing the collection of maximum amounts allowed by law in Schedule "B" Taxes.

No general discussion of the budget was held, the authorities planning to make a study of the financial situation and determine the 1939 rate possibly at the August meeting.

## Death Car Driver Exonerated Here

Alex Moble, Atlantic Coast Line employee of Palmyra, was exonerated of blame at a hearing before Justice J. L. Hassell held in connection with the accident that cost Lou Pearl Biggs, young colored girl, her life in Poplar Point Township late last Saturday night. The hearing, held in the offices of the trial justice here yesterday morning, attracted very few witnesses, and was considered a mere formality in settling the case.

Charlie Bullock and George Purvis, witnesses to the accident, testified that the car driver exercised due caution by almost stopping his car as he approached a group returning from a party, that he sounded his horn and proceeded at a slow rate of speed after the road was cleared, and that the girl, carrying her one-year-old sister in her arms, darted into the road in front of the car. The girl's neck was broken and she died instantly. The baby, thrown from the path of the car, was not hurt.

Questioned by officers, the parents of the girl stated that they believed the accident was unavoidable on Mr. Moble's part, that he had offered to defray part of the burial expenses and willingly done all he could to help them.

Representing one of the most worthy institutions of its kind in the State, the youthful singers are making their annual appearance at the church in this county.

## INSPECT SITES

Authorized by legislative enactment to locate a proposed tuberculosis sanatorium "somewhere" in eastern North Carolina, a special committee, following a meeting in Raleigh next Monday, will start out to inspect possible sites in a number of towns.

The committee, composed of Messrs. O. M. Mull, of Cleveland County; L. L. Burgin, of Henderson County, and Senator Joe Blythe, of Mecklenburg County, will start its field trip Tuesday and will inspect several in or near Williamston possibly late Tuesday or on Wednesday.

According to unofficial reports, the committee will also visit Franklinton, Henderson, Louisburg, Rocky Mount, Wilson, Tarboro, Edenton, Elizabeth City, Greenville, Washington, Snow Hill, Kinston, Wilmington, New Bern and Southport.

## Guardsmen Will Make Stop Here Early In August

### Six Hundred Men and Forty Officers Are Routed Through Here

The North Carolina National Guard will concentrate its forces here on August 6, it was announced today by Colonel J. B. Walbach of the 252nd Coast Artillery following a survey of the route the six hundred men and forty officers will follow from the Wilmington and High Point areas to Camp Story, near Virginia Beach.

Tentative plans were made by the colonel for pitching camp on the grammar school grounds for the night, but the second contingent of guardsmen will move on to Edenton where they will camp before moving into Virginia on August 7.

Coming in U. S. Highway No. 17 from Wilmington, Lumberton and other towns in that section of the State, approximately 300 men and about 20 officers will reach here in the early afternoon. The group from High Point, Greensboro and other towns in that section will move into Williamston over U. S. Highway No. 64 about the same time, but this group will continue on to Wilmington according to Colonel R. S. McClelland who was here today with Colonel Walbach making arrangements for the mass movement of the guardsmen.

The men will travel in 70 special army trucks and individual cars in company with their officers. Army regulations will control the movement and encampment.

Called into camp annually, the guardsmen will spend around two weeks at Camp Story and start their return trip about August 20, the two groups separating at this point.

## Three Liquor Stills Wrecked In County

Raiding in the barren territory of Robersonville and Hamilton Townships Wednesday, County officers and representatives of the Pitt-County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board, led by Special Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck, wrecked three large liquor plants, interrupting actual operations at two of the plants.

Going first to the "Stingy Point" section of Robersonville Township, the officers tore down and blasted a large steam plant, pouring out 500 gallons of beer.

Continuing into Hamilton Township, the officers found a 50-gallon capacity plant with a gas drum steaming, but the operators, hearing the blasts from the first plant, had left the scene. Very little beer was found at the plant.

Looping back into Robersonville Township and raiding along the Martin-Edgemore boundary line, the officers tore up a 100-gallon capacity copper kettle and poured out 200 gallons of beer and ten gallons of liquor. The operator, leaving the plant hurriedly just ahead of the raiders, left his coat and the plant running full blast.

Officers J. H. Roebuck and Roy Peel, of this county, and Ward, Taylor and Harris, of Pitt, made the raids.

## Orphanage Group Will Appear In The County

The Middlesex Orphanage singing class will appear in a special concert at the Cedar Grove Free Will Baptist church in this county next Thursday evening, July 13, at 8 o'clock, it was announced today.