

The Johnstonian-Sun

A Weekly Newspaper Containing The News And Views Of Your Community And Surrounding Territory.

The Johnstonian-Sun is dedicated to the best interest of Johnston county and its sixty thousand people. Read the news and advertisements in its columns each week.

Selma offers splendid living conditions, pure water, diversified industries, varied resources, equable climate and modern city conveniences. Selma welcomes you!

VOL. 24.

SELMA, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 1941.

SINGLE COPY 5c

NUMBER 35

Selma Police Criticized For Spy Scare Incident

Baggage of Ohio Woman Tourist Is Searched by Police After Her Son Had Been Arrested For Wanting To Make Some Pictures of Union Station, All Of Which Incensed the Lady Very Much—Legal Action Is Mentioned Against Town.

Washington, August 27.—Eastern North Carolina leads off with the first authentic nazi spy scare of the south-eastern section. An Ohio woman, Mrs. William Scott McKell, driving through the country, stopped near Selma to spend the night, and an 18-year-old son, probably thinking he would like to be a locomotive engineer some day, visited the railroad yards at the junction to take some pictures. Local officers, thinking this looked suspicious, put the young fellow under arrest and refused to permit him to communicate with his folks. Fort Bragg is not so far away and the officers suspected the pictures were being taken to direct German bombers to that great army settlement.

Mrs. McKell wrote to Senator Taft about her experience, and the Ohio senator in turn took the matter up with Senator Bailey, who felt that a very great mistake had been made, a mistake for which there was little excuse or justification, and that the governor of the state would be pleased to offer apologies to all concerned. There is also some talk of prosecuting the Selma officials on a charge of false arrest.

Mrs. McKell, sister-in-law of Col. David McKell, retired, of Chillicothe, wrote to Senator Taft a letter filled with indignation, more than a trace of melodrama, and the elements of a first class spy narrative. She had three sons along, but in the instant case the story revolves in the main about Robert, who had visited Selma with his camera. This, in part, is the way Mrs. McKell related young Robert's experiences, in and out of jail: "He started home right away but remembered that we needed gas because Mr. Ickes doesn't like his stations here to keep open after seven. While he was getting the gas, the chief of Selma police drove up and

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Seen and Heard Along THE MAINDRAG

By H. H. L.

F. B. PARRISH, JR., "soda jerker" at the SELMA DRUG COMPANY, won third place in the "Amateur Auctioneer's Contest" in Wilson on last Thursday afternoon—F. B., JR. 18, is considered one of the world's youngest auctioneers—he is a son of F. B. PARRISH, auctioneer on the Greenville market—F. B.'s first cousin, GEORGE PARRISH, of Selma, Route 1, won first honors—you will see and hear these young men on the screen at your local theatre in the near future—SGT. D. P. HOWELL, JR., is at home from Fort Bragg for a short vacation—another son of MR. and MRS. D. P. HOWELL, LEON HOWELL, is now on his way to Alaska—a card received from him by the writer says he is enjoying the trip—LEON is in the Navy and D. P., JR., is in the army—RUDOLPH HOWELL, manager of the Selma Theatre, has moved into his home, recently purchased from E. B. LEE—the home has been remodeled and now presents a very attractive appearance—RUDOLPH has gone into the hog and cattle raising business—he has 17 fine hogs, five cows and a bull—RALEIGH H. GRIFFIN has returned after spending several days with his mother in Northampton county and other points—MISS ELIZABETH WHITAKER of Littleton, arrived in her "tin Lizzie" Saturday afternoon to attend the Spencer-Perkins wedding at the local Methodist church that evening—"WHIT" says she gets such good service from that old Ford she is not even thinking about buying a new one—MR. GORDY of the Brick Hotel ran a "want ad" in this paper some time ago advertising a Ford Truck for sale, but in some manner the ad said he wanted to "buy" a Ford Truck—well, his phone started ringing about the time the paper left the press and it kept up for about a week—besides Ford Truck sellers drove here from Goldsboro, Rocky Mount, Wilson and other places to "sell" him a truck—it pays to advertise in this paper

JOHNSTON COUNTY SCHOOLS TO OPEN SEPTEMBER 18th

This Was the Decision Come To by the County Board of Education At a Meeting Last Thursday.

SCHOOLS WILL OPEN AT 8:25 A. M. (D.L.S.T.)

At a meeting of the Johnston County Board of Education, held in Smithfield last Thursday afternoon it was decided to open the public schools of the county on Thursday, September 18th.

The suggestion to open the schools on September 11 failed to meet the wishes of many farmers, who felt that this date would be too soon to allow their children to give much needed help in housing the crops, especially the early opened cotton.

Superintendent H. B. Marrow said that the 1941-42 school term would end on Monday, May 11, which will be somewhat of a precedent, since ordinarily the final closing day comes on Friday. Class work will be completed Friday, May 8th, and the commencement sermon will be on Sunday, May 10th, and the graduation exercises will come on Monday night, May 11th according to Mr. Marrow.

SELMA SCHOOL FACULTY

First Grade—Ruth Ingram, Kenansville, N. C.; Irma Herring, Clinton, N. C.; Mrs. Alethia Fant, Warsaw, N. C.

Second Grade—Roberta Spiers, Richmond, Va.; Mrs. Hattie Perkins, Selma, N. C.; Nora Blackmore, Warsaw, N. C., taking the place of Alma Lee who is married and living in Greenville, N. C.

Third Grade—Mary Watlington, Ruffin, N. C., taking the place of Mary Huggins, now at her home in Marion, N. C.; Celeste Boyette, Kenly, N. C., who formerly taught at Corbett-Hatcher, and is taking the place of Mrs. Mamie Harper Wiggs, now living in Selma; Bertha Mae Ammons, Rowland, N. C., taking the place of Delia Batchelor, who will teach in Enfield, N. C.

Fourth Grade—Naomi Wood, Wallace, N. C., taking the place of Dorothy Lee who resigned to accept a position with the Guy C. Lee Mfg. Co., Smithfield, N. C.; Mildred Boyette, Kenly, N. C.; Mrs. Margaret Linn Lentz, Goldsboro, N. C., taking the place of Mrs. Freida Farthing Sasser who now resides at her home in Goldsboro, N. C.

Fifth Grade—Vivian Griffin, Wilson, N. C., taking the place of Mrs. Rowe Henry, deceased; Martha

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Revival To Begin At Methodist Church

Plans have been completed for the Revival Meeting at Edgerton Memorial Methodist church here, which begins Wednesday evening, September 3rd, at 8 o'clock.

Services will be held daily, at 9:00 a. m., and at 8:00 p. m., through September 12th.

The Rev. F. B. Joyner, pastor of the Fairview Methodist church, will bring the messages at each service. We feel that the services of such a gifted preacher will enrich the spiritual life of our community. We extend an invitation to the people of the community to worship with us.

The Rev. O. L. Hathaway will preach at the regular worship services Sunday.

Mrs. Miffie Anne Sellers Died Tuesday Morning

Funeral services for Mrs. Miffie Anne Sellers, 51, wife of D. Craft Sellers, who died at her home, Selma, Route 2, three miles east of Selma, Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock, were conducted from the home Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, (EST). Burial took place in the Futrell cemetery, near Pine Level.

Surviving are her husband; six sons, W. C., N. V., Andrew, Vivian, Calvin and George Sellers; one brother, Joe Pittman, of Central, Md.

Delegation Appeals For Vocational Training

Delegation, Headed By Dr. Hocutt, of Clayton, Appeals To Board of Education For A System of Vocational Education In Johnston County.

A delegation, headed by Dr. A. B. Hocutt of Clayton, went before the Johnston County Board of Education at a meeting held in the Johnston county courthouse last Thursday afternoon and made an appeal for a system of vocational education in Johnston county.

The chief spokesman for the occasion was Norman Shepard of Smithfield, but others who made short talks in support of the new educational unit were Dr. E. N. Booker of Selma; Ezra Parker of Benson; Rev. A. T. Lassiter of Cleveland Township; Ralph Cane of Four Oaks; G. Willie Lee of Pleasant Grove township; Paul Kellar, the Rev. Roy McCulloch, Colonel Beddingfield, all of Clayton; Henry M. Johnston, Wilders, and James A. Weltons of Smithfield.

It was brought out at the meeting that Johnston county is one of only two of the 100 counties in the state which does not have a system of vocational education embracing industrial, agricultural and business training.

It was also brought out that only about 10 per cent of the high school students of the county go to college, and that by providing vocational training for the remaining 90 per cent they would be fitted for some kind of business or industrial career, whichever they might be found best suited to fill.

Superintendent H. B. Marrow explained that the board of education had already had this matter under advisement, and that they were considering calling a meeting in the near future to which interested citizens of the county would be invited. But Mr. Marrow thinks it will be impossible for Johnston county to participate in a federal-state vocational program at this time due to the great amount of cost involved. Mr. Marrow estimates that to set up a complete system of vocational training throughout the schools of Johnston county would cost from \$75,000 to \$100,000, which makes it impossible without raising taxes to a considerable extent.

Superintendent Marrow listed four methods of financing a vocational education program:

1. The county tax rate could be raised.

2. Special tax elections could be held by districts wanting vocational instruction.

3. The county could terminate its policy of making bond payments for the school districts, leaving the various districts to pay their obligations and making possible a 30-cent reduction in the county-wide tax rate that would provide a leeway for appropriating funds for the vocational education program. (The county has never assumed the bonds of the school district, but has agreed to pay the obligations from year to year).

4. As a temporary method of getting funds, the county could refund its bonds.

N. J. Creech's Brother Dies At Angier Home

Funeral services for Mr. William Henry Creech, who died at his home near Angier on last Thursday after a brief illness, were held from the Elevation Methodist church Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock, conducted by a former pastor, the Rev. J. J. Boone, of the Smithfield Methodist church, assisted by the Rev. D. M. Clemmons, pastor of the Selma Baptist church. Burial took place in the church cemetery.

Mr. Creech was 67 years of age and a brother of our townsman, Mr. N. J. Creech, of the firm of W. E. Parker & Son.

Surviving are another brother, R. B. Creech, of Benson, and three daughters, Mrs. Thaddeus Barbour, of Benson; Mrs. Ben Barbour, of Benson, Route 1, and Miss Esther Creech, of Angier.

Courthouse To Be Closed Monday

The Johnston County courthouse will be closed Monday, September 1, 1941, in observance of Labor Day; and the Board of County Commissioners will hold their regular meeting on Tuesday, September 2nd.

HIGHEST PRICES IN YEARS CHEER FARMERS AS BRIGHT BELT OPENS

FOURTH MAN HELD IN DEATH PROBE

Charlie Sadler Tells Officers That He Drove Woman To Clayton.

A fourth man was held in the county jail at Raleigh early last night in connection with the slaying of Mrs. Ruth Smithwick, 25-year-old woman whose bruised and lacerated body was found on U. S. Highway 70 one mile from Garner early Sunday morning.

Charlie (Red) Sadler, said to be about 40 years of age, was taken into custody by Wake County and Hillsboro officers Wednesday at Hillsboro, where he had worked for two days after leaving a job with the Pilot Cotton Mills in Raleigh Saturday. Sadler, who was drawing his pay preparatory to leaving his job in Hillsboro, told officers that he and two other men took Mrs. Smithwick to Clayton Saturday afternoon, Sheriff Norma F. Turner said. He said further that he noticed that she had a black eye and "had had a lick on the head with an instrument of some sort" when he first saw her Saturday afternoon.

Sadler's statements fitted very closely the stories told by the Johnston County youths, Harry Lee Howard, 19, and Frank Johnson, 21, who previously told officers that they had carried the woman to the spot near where her body was later found, Sheriff Turner said last night. Both Howard and Johnson have been held for investigation since Sunday, and Monday Thad Barbour, 29, Johnston county farmer, also was arrested. Barbour told officers that he, Sadler and a man by the name of Charlie Waddell, also an employee at Pilot Mills, had seen the woman on Saturday.

Standing before officers in working clothes, Sadler declared that he and Waddell had taken Mrs. Smithwick to Clayton, picking her up at Dolly Saunders' residence on the Wendell highway.

"We were driving my car," Sadler said, "and had stopped at a filling station at Clayton. I went in to get some cold drinks and when I got back the woman had left my car." He declared that he never saw her after that.

Both Sadler and Waddell left the Pilot Mills employ Saturday, officers revealed.

Yesterday's arrest brought the total to four now being held on investigation in the strange death of the 90-pound woman, whose records reveal that she had faced court charges of being an inmate of a bawdy house.

Johnson and Howard have only repeated their same story—that they took the woman from a car at a filling station, started to bring her to Raleigh and discovered that they were out of gas. Since they couldn't buy gas along the way, Johnson said, they decided to put her out and go back to Clayton. They left her standing by the roadside with a trunk and suitcase which belonged to her, officers said the boys told them. Her body, bruised and cut, with a leg and arm broken in two places each, her neck broken and a thigh crushed, was first discovered about 4:30 a. m. Sunday. Howard and Johnson said they left the woman at 2:30 a. m., and Coroner Roy M. Banks estimated that she had been dead at least two hours when he reached the scene at 5:00 a. m.

Following yesterday's relentless questioning of the four persons held and the continued search for "other parties," officers seemed in agreement that the woman was dead before she was thrown from an automobile or run over—if she had been thrown from a car or run over at all.

Two Cotton Stalks Contain 140 Bolls

On display over in Smithfield the other day a Johnstonian-Sun man saw two stalks of cotton containing 140 matured bolls. This cotton grew on the farm of B. W. and Dr. E. N. Booker in Cleveland Township. If there are other farmers in Johnston county who can beat this, let us hear from you.

Billy Pearce, of Wilson, was the week end guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Pearce.

Price Range This Year Shows A Gain of From \$4 To \$13 Per Hundred Above Those Paid On The Same Date One Year Ago.

SMITHFIELD MARKET MAKES GOOD AVERAGE

The opening of the tobacco market in Eastern North Carolina Tuesday resulted in one of the most auspicious beginnings in recent years. Long before the chant of the auctioneers was heard, farmers from far and near crowded the warehouses, many of whom had offerings on the floor, while many others appeared as spectators to inform themselves on the price trend. Also hundreds of business men visited the various markets to see how the golden leaf was selling.

Will Conduct Revival At Kenly Church



The Rev. Lawrence I. Stell, pastor of the Roanoke Rapids Presbyterian church, will conduct a series of Revival services at the Kenly Presbyterian church, beginning Sunday night, August 31, at 7:30 (EST). He will be assisted by the Rev. Charles E. Clarke, pastor of the Kenly church. These services will continue through Sunday night, September 7th. Mr. Stell is a wonderfully attractive speaker, and very much in earnest about the Master's work. You will enjoy these services.

Charles S. White Dies Suddenly In Home Here

Was Superintendent Of Eastern Manufacturing Company For Many Years—Funeral Held Sunday Afternoon.

Charles Solan White, who celebrated his 67th birthday anniversary last Sunday, died suddenly at his home in Selma Saturday morning at 7 o'clock. The deceased was the first superintendent of the Lizzie and the Ethel Cotton Mills, serving in that capacity for more than twenty years. He was a native of Bertie county, moving to Selma in 1904. Surviving are his wife; three sons, Herbert L. White, of Selma; Luther G. White, of Pittsburg, Pa., and Charles L. White, of Selma; six daughters, Mrs. D. P. Jernigan, of Cabin Creek, W. Va.; Mrs. J. R. Hill, of St. Albans, W. Va.; Mrs. R. L. Hawkins, of Wilmington; Mrs. A. J. Worrel, Mrs. Ernest Parrish, Mrs. James Eason, and Miss Louise White, all of Selma; one brother, P. M. White, of Roxboro; two sisters, Mrs. Charles Jordan, and Mrs. John Jernigan, of Kelford, N. C.

Funeral services were held from the home Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, E. S. T., conducted by his pastor, the Rev. D. M. Clemmons, of the Selma Baptist church, assisted by the Rev. O. L. Hathaway, of the Edgerton Memorial Methodist church of Selma. Burial took place in the Selma city cemetery.

The Balls Return From Mountains

Mr. David S. Ball, superintendent of the Eastern Manufacturing Company here, left Saturday for Stony Point to spend the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Ball. Mrs. Ball and children, David, Jr., and Betty Ann, after spending the past month with Mr. Ball's parents at Stony Point, returned to Selma with Mr. Ball Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Dean and son, Benjamin, of Buie's Creek, were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Woodard Sunday.

When the buyers went into action and began to count off piles of tobacco behind them containing tags showing the price offered, eager eyes scanned these tags as favorable comments began to be heard concerning the prices. As the bidding continued the smiles on the farmers faces broadened, and very seldom did any one show signs of dissatisfaction with prices, but on the contrary there was plenty of evidence that most farmers were more than pleased, many saying prices were much better than they had hoped for.

Smithfield Makes Good Average

One of the best average made in the entire state Tuesday was made by the Smithfield market, which sold 495,116 pounds of tobacco at an average of \$31.63 per hundred. Smithfield has two sets of buyers this season and there was enough tobacco on the floors of the Gold Leaf and Wallace warehouses Tuesday to keep both groups busy all day.

Sales were heavy on all markets Tuesday, with the average price level ranging from \$4 to \$13 above last year's opening sales. The bulk of the tobacco sold from 24 to 35 cents per pound.

It was very noticeable on the Smithfield market Tuesday that the figure "39" played a very important part on sales tags. Only an occasional pile would bring 40 cents or above, but hundreds of piles sold at 39 cents per pound—even though a farmer had made several grades from a curing, it often happened that three or more grades placed side by side in a row sold for 39 cents, many farmers having remarked that it did not seem to make much difference whether the tobacco was graded or not, since it all brought the same price. Of course there were lower grades that sold much lower, and these are what always pull the average down.

Other Markets

Rocky Mount reported 1,000,000 pounds sold Tuesday at an average of between 29 and 30 cents a pound.

Kinston reported an estimated 1,100,000 pounds sold Tuesday at an average of 28 cents.

Wendell reported officially that 246,362 pounds were sold Tuesday at an average of \$28.10 per hundred.

Wilson reported that approximately 1,400,000 pounds were sold Tuesday at an average of \$29.75 per hundred.

Goldsboro reported an average of 27 cents per pound Tuesday.

Greenville reported that two million pounds were sold there Tuesday at an average of \$29 to \$29 per hundred.

Lumber reported that Tuesday's sales totaled 924,248 pounds sold, at an average of \$27.60.

Selma Boys Attend Dedication of Armory

Fred Woodard and Yates Perry, of Fort Jackson, S. C., attended the dedication of a new armory in Warrenton, Wednesday and Thursday, and played with the 120th Infantry Band. On Thursday night the citizens of Warrenton gave the soldiers a dance. They will arrive in Selma Friday to spend the week end with their respective parents.

Selma's Police Chief Attends Kinston Meet

Chief-of-Police H. B. Pearce and Policeman Charles W. Straughan, of Selma, attended a "law enforcement" meeting held in Kinston on last Sunday afternoon. The officers attending the meeting were given first-class information in regard to "flimflaming" now going on at practically all tobacco markets in the tobacco belt.