

'HEX', TRIANGLE ALMOST WRECKS HOME



FIGURES IN NORTH CAROLINA "HEX" TRIANGLE WHILE Pettiford, prosperous Pilot

N. C. farmer, and one of the central figures in the "hex" triangle which last week resulted

in the arrest of William Best of Kinston on charges of practicing medicine without a license, ob-

taining money under false pretense and abduction, is shown with the couple's four children.

At the center is shown the Pettiford home, while at the right is shown Attorney Yarborough who

has been retained to represent Best. Attorney Yarborough is examining a shotgun which figured

in another "hex" case in March of 1947 when Willie Mitchell shot and killed Adam Aiston, a "root

doctor" who he believed had hexed him into impotency and seduced his wife.—Carolinian photo



CAROLINIAN PHOTO Quiz

THE QUESTION:

According to U. S. Census bureau estimates, unemployment has shown a two million year. Do you feel that this increase in unemployment is an indication of a coming depression?

THE ANSWER:

Robert L. Barnes, law student, "I feel that a depression is approaching, because of the fact that supply has caught up with demand in the American market. For example, cars which previously sold for much higher prices are coming down. If there were a continued demand for them, the prices would remain high. Since there is an apparent overflow of supplies, there is less need for production and, consequently less need for labor. When people can't buy, you get a depression."

Kermit Cockrell, Veterans training instructor, Fuquay Springs, "I feel that there is no cause for alarm. There is and has been an absolute need for the leveling off from the booming economy and high employment levels of the war years. The leveling off was to be expected and not necessarily a sign of depression. I think that it might be viewed as a natural consequence of financial retol."

Mr. Barnes

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COPSAVERT RIOT

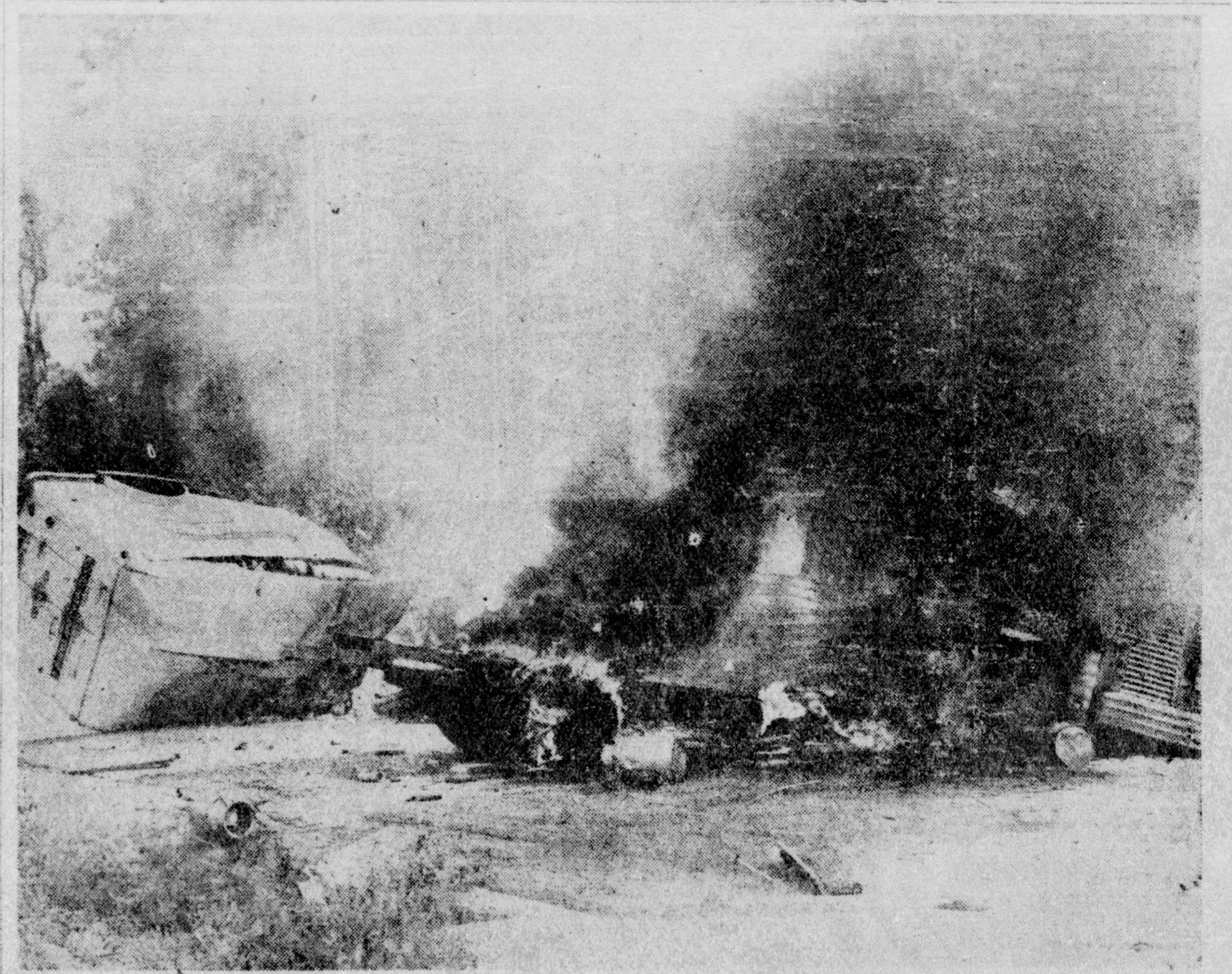
9 ESCAPE DEATH IN CRASH

BUS PASSENGERS SLIGHTLY HURT AS DRIVER DIES

RALEIGH — Nine Negroes escaped death in a bus-truck crash near Smithfield the morning of July Fourth. Seven were taken to the Fairlodge Hospital for treatment. None were seriously injured. Three persons died instantly and 18 others were sent to the hospital in Smithfield when an Atlantic Greyhound bus collided with a milk truck 11 miles south of the town. The head-on crash cost the lives of the bus driver and both of the occupants of the truck. All 12 passengers on the Raleigh-bound bus were injured, one critically and several others seriously. The driver was killed instantly and was later burned beyond recognition when both vehicles caught fire. The fire began about ten minutes after the collision occurred and soon was blazing through the entire bus. The Smithfield Fire Department fought it for four hours. The wreck blocked traffic for two hours. Both vehicles were a complete loss. Continued on page 8 this section

SHOOTING LEADS TO THREATENED TWIN CITY RIOT

Winston-Salem — Ollie Leroy West, 39-year-old white, who shot Mrs. Hattie Cooke of High Point in the law last Friday evening, will go on trial in Municipal Court Thursday morning. West is charged with assault with a deadly weapon. According to police, Mrs. Cooke was in a group who burst into his living room, apparently under the impression that they were going to a dance being held next door in the Liberty Warehouse. West is the operator of the Liberty Cafe and the lessor of the warehouse which is next door to his residence. The warehouse had been rented for the dance. Police believe that the group of about fifteen persons had gone up the stairway and forced their way into his apartment, apparently seeking a side entrance to "crash" the dance. Police Chief John M. Gold reports that West asked them to go twice, and when they refused, he



Pranksters Blamed In Cross Burnings

Rocky Mount (Special) — Two incidents of alleged burning of crosses were reported to authorities here last week. The first cross burning was observed near the white swimming pool in the western part of the city. The second was in the north-eastern sector adjacent to the Negro swimming pool which was recently opened here. It is said that Randolph D. Armstrong, director of the Negro pool and recently elected supervising principal of city schools, saw the cross and extinguished it and notified city officials who inclined to the idea that both crosses were the work of pranksters. Continued on page 8, this section

THREE DIED, THIRTEEN LIVED — Flames still rise from wreckage of a Greyhound bus a short time after the bus collided with a milk truck, killing the bus driver, a passenger in the milk truck and the driver of the milk truck, near Smithfield Monday morning.

Thirteen passengers in the bus, nine of whom were colored, were injured in the crash. All of the colored passengers were able to go to their homes following emergency treatment. Photo courtesy News & Observer. Thirteen passengers in the bus, nine of whom were colored, were injured in the crash. All of the colored passengers were able to go to their homes following emergency treatment. Photo courtesy News & Observer.

VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE PRES. DIES SUDDENLY

PETERSBURG, Va. — Dr. Luther Hilton Foster, 62-year-old president of Virginia State College was found dead in bed at his home in Petersburg by members of his family on Wednesday morning. The college president, who was recognized as one of the most capable college administrators in the country, had been failing for several months, according to associates, but had not considered the illness as too serious. Under his administration Virginia State College embarked upon and carried out one of the most successful building and expansion programs in the history of Negro education. Dr. Foster came to Virginia State. Continued on page 8, this section

Gate City To Plan Housing Project

GREENSBORO — As soon as President Truman signs the multi-million-dollar federal housing law, the city of Greensboro will go ahead with plans for a Negro housing project. This is what the chairman of the city Housing Authority, A. C. Hall, said Tuesday. The need for a Negro housing project is great, and work on this project will be pushed first, Hall stated. "We are not going to let any grass grow under our feet," he said. "As soon as the President signs the bill, and we can start its provisions, we expect to go into operation."

Texas Passes First Anti-Lynch Law

AUSTIN, Texas — The state Legislature has passed the first specific law against lynching. The Senate approved the measure by voice vote and sent it to Governor Beau-

Tarheel Roundup

BOUND OVER — Robert Thomas of 76 Jamaica Drive, bound over under \$2500 bond for trial in superior court, is charged with assaulting a minor with intent to commit rape. Thomas allegedly assaulted his 11-year-old niece while staying at the home of his brother.

DROWNING — The drowning of Isadora Stevenson Powell, 22-year-old, was ruled accidental. The death was the only holiday weekend accident in Northampton or Halifax counties. According to the coroner young Powell was in a party of several other young men on an outing at

the gravel pit near Garysburg and was using an inflated inner tube as a raft. Suddenly he lost his tube in water, over his head and began to go down. None of the men in the party, including the victim, could swim. Despite the efforts of his brother to save him, he drowned. Artificial respiration was applied for about thirty minutes but to no avail.

OPENS PLAYGROUND — ELIZABETH CITY — A playground was opened for children on Independence Day. The playground will feature games such as badminton, tennis, softball, horse shoes, table tennis

and volleyball. As soon as the site is completely cleared, swings, slides and seesaws will be added. Equipment and funds for the playground were made available through the Elizabeth City Recreation Commission. The playground is under the supervision of Adolphus Woodhouse, Kenneth Jenkins is his assistant.

HIT-RUN VICTIM — PREMONT — James Bryant, 25-years old, died of injuries received in a hit and run accident on U. S. 117 at Fremont City limits. Bryant was walking on the left side of the highway at 1:30 a.m. toward Wilson when an oncoming

Continued on page 8, this section

Continued on page 8, this section

COURT REVERSES DEATH SENTENCE IN S. C. KILLINGS

WASHINGTON (AP) — I. D. Harris, 25, of Aiken, S. C. native, sentenced to die for a double murder in Aiken county in April, 1946, is well on his way to being a free man as a result of a U. S. Supreme court decision that his confession to the crime was obtained

Continued on page 8, this section

Continued on page 8, this section

PILOT COUPLE CHARGE FRAUD BY "WITCH DOCTOR"

LOUISBURG — The belief in hexes and "witch doctors" which has turned the spotlight of national publicity upon this section of North Carolina three times in as many years has cropped up again. This time the story is one of a well-to-do young farm couple who, according to their story, fell victims to a smooth-talking "curer of unnatural diseases" who talked them out of \$1,426 and almost brought murder into their peaceful home near Pilot. The young couple are Mr. and Mrs. Willie Pettiford who live with their four small children in an attractive and comfortable home on a well-kept farm about three miles from the town of Pilot. BROUGHT TO HOME — The alleged "curer of unnatural diseases" first known to the Pettifords as Mr. Medford, but later identified as William Best, was brought to the couple's home last December by Mrs. Bessie Hegans, a cousin of Mrs. Pettiford. At the time Mr. Pettiford had

Continued on page 8, this section