

# THE STATE PORT PILOT

A Good Newspaper In A Good Community

Most Of The News  
All The Time

100 Pilots mailed to  
readers in Brunswick  
County this week

VOLUME EIGHT NO. 36

8-PAGES TODAY

Southport, N. C., Wednesday, October 9th, 1935

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

\$1.50 PER YEAR

## Dillon Jenrette Convicted Of Murder In The Second Degree; Other Criminal Cases Tried

Returns Verdict At  
10 O'clock On Sunday  
Morning After Trial Had  
Lasted Through Three  
Days And Two Nights

DEFENDANT MUST  
SERVE 29-30 YEARS

J. J. Burney, G.  
Fesperman and R.  
Sentelle Prosecuted;  
W. Davis, S. B.  
Frink and Dwight  
McEwen Defended

Deliberating for almost  
two hours on a case  
requiring three full days for  
a Brunswick county jury  
into the court room at  
10 o'clock Sunday morning and  
at a verdict of second  
degree murder against Dillon Jenrette  
for the slaying of Louis W.  
on the afternoon of Sep-

Decision came as the  
one of the hardest fought  
ever tried here. Even at  
10 o'clock when the verdict  
returned the court room was  
the place was filled with  
silence as M. B. Wat-  
son, the assistant clerk of court,  
read the roll of jurors. Asked  
to speak for them, mem-  
bers of the jury indicated E. D.  
their foreman. Not a  
word was drawn in that mo-  
ment before Mr. Miliken spoke.  
The defendant, who had main-  
tained his composure until a short  
time before the jury returned its  
verdict, fainted when he heard it  
read. He was out for al-  
most half an hour. As soon as  
he was able to stand he was  
taken before Judge Clawson L.  
Williams, who presided during  
the trial to receive sentence.  
(Continued on Page Four)

Looking Over  
The Headlines  
Events of State,  
National and World-  
Interest During Past  
Week

Wednesday  
Frances Perkins, secre-  
tary of Labor, told a meeting  
of the American Federation of  
Labor Tuesday night that re-  
covery is coming in a peaceful  
manner. . . The Works Pro-  
gram Administration in Wash-  
ington Tuesday night announ-  
ced that \$1,140,000,000 must be  
expended in order to have all em-  
ployees at work by November  
1. . . All pretense of contin-  
ental diplomatic relation between  
the United States and Ethiopia was ended  
when each country ex-  
changed the official representa-  
tives of the other nation. . . The  
fighting forces of the United  
States are being increased at  
the rate of 7,000 per month in  
order to carry out this nation's policy  
of . . . G-men were  
working Tuesday for clues to  
the identity of the parties who  
sent extortion notes to  
West. . . Because of his  
administration attitude,  
Senator Talmadge of Georgia  
was left off the official  
committee when  
President Roosevelt visits that  
State this week.

Friday  
The Detroit Tigers of the  
American League captured the  
small championship of the  
league Monday by defeating the  
Cubs in the sixth  
game of the 1935 World Series.  
The Tigers replace the St.  
Louis Cardinals of the National  
League as world champions. . .  
The workers were killed Mon-  
day in a terrific blast that  
killed a Chicago paint fac-  
tory. . . Italy was branded  
as the aggressor in the  
Ethiopian war. . . An-  
other war note was that Em-  
peror Haile Selassie will lead  
his army to the front.  
(Continued on Page Eight)

### MEETING SATURDAY OF THE DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE GROUP

Members of the County  
Democratic executive commit-  
tees will meet here Saturday  
afternoon for the purpose of  
appointing someone to suc-  
ceed U. L. Rourk as chairman  
of the county board of educa-  
tion.  
Announcement of the resig-  
nation of Chairman Rourk was  
made last week. He declared  
that his reason for leaving the  
board was in order that he  
might devote his full time to  
his business.

### Mrs. T. H. Biles P.-T.A. President

#### Elected Following The Re- signation Of Mrs. Frank St. George At Business Meeting On Thursday Night

Mrs. T. H. Biles was elected  
president of the Parent-Teachers  
Association of the Southport  
school at a business meeting of  
that organization held Thursday  
night in the school auditorium.  
Mrs. Biles succeeds Mrs. Frank  
St. George who tendered her re-  
signation at the meeting.  
During the business session a  
report was made that the pianos  
had been tuned. Money for this  
purpose was donated by F. M.  
(Continued on Page Eight)

### Special Term Of Court Is Likely

#### Members Of Board Of Com- missioners Passed Order Requesting Special Term Of Brunswick County Superior Court

Upon the recommendation of  
Judge Clawson L. Williams mem-  
bers of the board of county com-  
missioners in session here Mon-  
day passed an order requesting a  
special term of Brunswick county  
Superior court for the trial of  
civil cases.  
The civil docket in this county  
is congested and it is hoped that  
a special term will clear up sev-  
eral cases that have been pend-  
ing for some time. Judge Wil-  
liams set the case of McCoy vs  
McCoy as the first one to be  
tried at the next civil term.  
The commissioners were in  
session Monday and Tuesday but  
only matters of routine business  
were discussed.  
B. W. Benton, member of the  
board, is a patient in the Brun-  
swick county hospital and was un-  
able to attend the session.

### Fire Equipment Is Demonstrated

#### New Water Pump For Com- bating Forest Fires Dem- onstrated Here Monday By Fire Warden Dawson Jones

The new water pump attach-  
ment for the fire warden's truck  
was demonstrated here Monday  
for the benefit of the commis-  
sioners and other county officials  
by Fire Warden Dawson Jones.  
The new pump is attached to  
the motor of the engine of the  
truck and is under the hood.  
When connected up and the en-  
gine is run at a reasonable speed,  
the pump creates enough pres-  
sure to throw a stream of water  
for more than a hundred feet.  
There are two sections of hose  
with this equipment. One is to  
(Continued on Page 8)

**IN HOSPITAL**  
B. W. Benton, member of the  
board of county commissioners,  
is a patient in the Brunswick  
county hospital where he is re-  
covering from a heart attack.

### Two Other Murder Trials Result In Verdicts Of Manslaughter; Negro Woman Given 4 To 7 Years, And Man 15 To 20 Years

#### SEVERAL CASES WERE CONTINUED

#### Lester Johnson, Convicted Of Hit-And-Run Driving, Escaped With Payment Of Costs, Fine And Suspension Of His Driving License

Verdicts of manslaughter were  
returned in two of the three mur-  
der trials disposed of here last  
week before Judge Clawson Wil-  
liams.

Willie Mae Gaskins was found  
guilty of killing her husband and  
was sentenced to serve from 4 to  
7 years in the state penitentiary  
in Raleigh or in any other prison  
provided for delinquent women.

Henry Hickman was convicted  
of the slaying of Clarence Wil-  
liams and was sentenced to serve  
not less than 15 years nor more  
than 20 years in the state peni-  
tentiary in Raleigh, to be worked  
under the supervision of the State  
Highway and Public Works Com-  
mission.

J. E. McKeithan was found  
guilty of an assault with intent  
to kill Ernest Babson and his  
wife. For his assault upon Mrs.  
Babson the defendant was sen-  
tenced to serve 2 years in the  
state penitentiary, to be worked  
under the supervision of the  
State Highway and Public Works  
Commission. The same sentence  
for his assault upon Mr. Babson  
was suspended provided the de-  
fendant remain of good behavior  
following his release from prison  
(Continued on Page 8)

### Lecturer To Be Here Saturday

#### Illustrated Lecture Giving True Facts About Water- fowl Situation To Be De- livered In High School Auditorium At 8 O'clock

Dr. Henry C. Oberholser, ornithologist, will deliver an illus-  
trated lecture on the waterfowl  
situation in the United States Sat-  
urday evening at 8 o'clock in the  
Southport high school auditorium.  
There will be no charge for ad-  
mission and the public is cordially  
invited to attend.

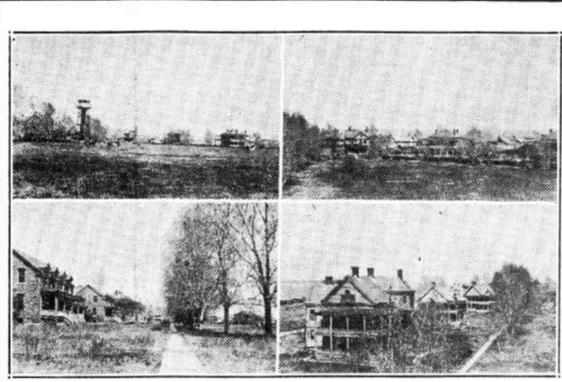
Dr. Oberholser has been in the  
government service for the past  
30 years and probably is the best  
posted man in the country on the  
true status of the waterfowl. His  
illustrations will include motion  
pictures and slides made through-  
out the United States and Can-  
ada.

The lecture here will be of par-  
ticular interest to persons inter-  
ested in the waterfowl of this  
section. Definite plans have been  
made to have Dr. Oberholser visit  
Battery Island to study the  
birds who make their homes there.  
Arrangements for this lecture  
were completed by Miss Annie  
May Woodside, county superin-  
tendent of schools.

### Debt Adjustment Officials Here

B. B. Bell, contact man from  
the Federal Land Bank, and C.  
W. E. Pittman, district super-  
visor of the debt adjustment unit  
of the Resettlement Administra-  
tion, visited Southport and Brun-  
swick county Wednesday.  
While here they conferred with  
Bruce Ludlum and R. O. Johnson  
of the Brunswick county debt  
adjustment committee.  
Those who may be interested  
or who may need the advice of  
the local debt adjustment body  
should contact some member of  
the committee, which includes  
the following members: Bruce  
Ludlum, chairman, S. B. Frink,  
H. B. Smith, M. B. Watkins and  
Rangwald Johnson.  
C. Ed Taylor is conciliator for  
this committee.

## FORT CASWELL IS NOW A DESERTED VILLAGE



Above left: Looking across the parade ground. The observation tower may be seen. Below left: View down the street in front of the officers' residences. These houses are of brick. Above right: Looking east from the top of the observation tower. Below right: A view of other officers' homes. The caretaker is the only resident of this deserted village which has enough modern homes for several hundred people.

## Mouth Of Cape Fear Guarded By Historical Fort Caswell

Editors Note:—This is the  
third in a series of historical  
sketches being prepared for  
The State Port Pilot by W.  
H. Hood. The first was about  
the Brunswick county court-  
house and the second was  
about old Fort Johnson.

North Carolina was slow about  
seceding from the Union and  
caused a great unrest among her  
coast citizens, who were afraid  
the Federal Government would  
occupy Fort Johnson and Fort  
Caswell, these forts commanding  
the main entrances to the Cape  
Fear River. Fort Caswell was a  
bastioned, masonry fort of great  
strength and was in good order,  
but had no mounted guns. In this  
section the secessionists were in  
the majority, and early in 1861  
the "Cape Fear Minute Men"  
were organized under the com-  
mand of John Hedrick.  
On January 10th Major Hedrick  
and his men descended on  
Fort Johnson and took possession  
of all supplies. That same after-  
noon Major Hedrick took twenty  
of his command, reinforced by  
Capt. S. M. Thurston, commander  
of the Smithville guards, and a  
number of his men and citizens  
of Smithville, now Southport, all  
acting as individuals only, and  
proceeded to Fort Caswell across  
the bay, where they demanded  
and obtained surrender of the  
fort from the United States ser-  
geant in charge. This was done  
before North Carolina seceded  
from the Union.  
By an order from Governor  
(Continued on page five)

The first appropriation for the  
construction of Fort Caswell was  
under Act of Congress approved  
March 2nd, 1825.  
The actual building of the Fort  
was commenced by the Govern-  
ment in the year 1826. It was re-  
ported as about completed Octo-  
ber 20th, 1838, at a total cost of  
\$473,402.00. It was named Fort  
Caswell by War Department or-  
der number 32 of April 18, 1833,  
in honor of Richard Caswell, first  
governor of North Carolina.  
The first brick for the con-  
struction of Fort Caswell were  
made on the shores of Waldon  
Creek in Brunswick county, about  
four miles from Southport on the  
historical old stage route now  
known as the river road and on  
the lands of John McCrocker  
farm at what the old residents  
call the brick yard.  
The fort was in charge of United  
States Sergeant James Riley  
at the beginning of the Civil  
War.

## Citizens Fund Growing Daily

R. O. Johnson, chairman of the  
Citizens Fund Committee, appoin-  
ted for the purpose of securing  
money with which to defray the  
necessary expenses of the Brun-  
swick County-Southport Port Com-  
mission, reports that donations  
are coming in daily.  
The huge thermometer erected  
outside the office of the Port  
City Civic club indicates the in-  
crease in funds as members of  
the committee work toward their  
goal of \$1,000. Latest reports are  
that funds have passed the \$400  
mark.

## End Of Jenrette Trial Similar To That Of Famous Stewart Case

Most of the spectators in  
the court room Saturday  
night were under the impres-  
sion that the Jenrette trial  
was drawing to a close 11  
years to the day after the  
famous Stewart murder case.  
But this was not a fact.  
Both cases were tried dur-  
ing the October term of  
court, both cases were con-  
cluded on Saturday and the  
verdict of the jury in both  
cases was returned on Sun-  
day morning; but the Jen-  
rette trial ended on October  
6, six days short of 11 years  
after the Stewart case.  
The jury in the Stewart  
trial returned its verdict on  
Sunday morning, October 12,  
1924. Judge Henry A. Grady,  
who presided over that term  
ordered the Sheriff to open  
court at 9:30 o'clock Sunday  
morning in order that the  
verdict might be received.  
The Stewarts were found  
guilty of first degree murder  
and a few minutes later  
Judge Grady pronounced the  
sentence which later sent  
them to their death in the  
electric chair in the first  
father and son execution in  
the history of the state.  
Solicitor J. J. Burney, in  
his argument to the jury Sat-  
urday night, said that the  
Stewart trial had been con-  
cluded exactly 11 years ago  
to the day.  
Mention of the conviction  
of C. W. Stewart and his son,  
Elmer Stewart, recalls the  
story, said to be an actual  
fact, that the moment that  
the verdict of the jury was  
announced in the Brunswick  
county courthouse, the horn  
on an automobile in Wilming-  
ton belonging to Leon Geor-  
ge, one of the men for whose  
murder the Stewarts were  
convicted, began to blow  
without being touched.

## Local Cooling Plant Opened For Business On Monday Morning

### TEACHERS MEETING HELD SATURDAY AT BOLIVIA SCHOOL

A county-wide teachers  
meeting was held Saturday  
morning at the Bolivia school  
at which time Miss Annie Mae  
Woodside, county superinten-  
dent of schools, discussed a  
few of the plans for the year's  
work.  
Principals from all of the  
schools in the county reported  
a large enrollment and there  
was hope that several addi-  
tional teachers might be secur-  
ed.  
Another meeting will be held  
some time before Christmas,  
the date and place to be an-  
nounced later.

### Refrigerator Truck Left On Monday Night With First Seafood Products From Southport Plant Of N. C. Fisheries, Inc.

#### CHAS. E. GAUSE IS MANAGER OF PLANT

#### Plant Now Specializing In Shipping Shrimp; Large Part Of Products Is Being Sold To Gro- cers Ready To Be Served

The Southport plant of the  
North Carolina Fisheries, Inc.,  
began operation Monday  
and shortly before midnight the first  
truck load of seafood to be pre-  
pared there moved out for mar-  
kets in the piedmont section.  
Chas. E. Gause, manager of  
the local plant, said last night  
that he was highly pleased with  
the results of the first two days  
operations. Bad weather made it  
impossible for any of the boats  
to make unusually large catches.  
Notwithstanding this fact, two  
truck loads of iced and packed  
fish and shrimp were prepared  
for shipment on Tuesday.

Most of the shrimp have been  
headed and packed in ice for de-  
livery to retail merchants. Some  
of the shrimp were boiled and  
packed in gallon cans which  
were buried in ice. This latter  
method is for the delivery of  
fresh shrimp ready to be serv-  
ed. Mr. Gause said that this latter  
plan for handling shrimp is  
expected to prove very popular  
and he says that within a short  
time many people who never be-  
fore served shrimp will add them  
to their regular menu.  
The rapid refrigerator truck de-  
livery service of the Fisheries or-  
ganization makes it possible for  
merchants far from the sea coast  
to sell fish and shrimp the day  
after they are caught.

## Two Apply For Truck Franchise

### State Utilities Commission In Raleigh Monday Hear Petitions From Two Com- panies To Operate Motor Line

Members of the State Utilities  
Commission in Raleigh Monday  
heard the arguments of two ap-  
plicants to operate a motor ex-  
press line from Southport to Wil-  
mington.  
H. M. Shannon appeared in be-  
half of the Wilmington, Brun-  
swick and Southport railroad. A  
representative of the Pierce-  
Formy Duval Motor Express, of  
Hallsboro, asked for a franchise  
over the same route for that  
company.

## Official Report Of Grand Jury

### Judge Williams Praised The Members Of That Body For Faithful Manner In Which They Discharged Their Duties

After hearing the report of the  
grand jury made Friday, Judge  
Clawson L. Williams thanked the  
members for their services and  
praised them for the faithful  
manner in which they discharged  
the duties entrusted to them.  
Following is the report of this  
body:

"State of North Carolina,  
"Brunswick County.  
In Superior Court  
To the Hon. Clawson L. Williams,  
Judge presiding:  
"We, the Grand Jury for the  
fall term 1935, Superior Court of  
Brunswick County, convened at  
the courthouse in Southport, N.  
C., on Monday, September 30th,  
1935, respectfully submit the fol-  
lowing report:  
"We examined 14 bills, return-  
ing 12 true bills, 2 not true bills.  
"We have made three presenta-  
tions. We have examined the  
courthouse and found it in excel-  
lent condition and well kept.  
"We have examined the county  
jail and found it in good condi-  
tion and well kept.  
"We have examined the county  
hospital and find it clean and  
well kept, though in need of  
(Continued on page 8)

## Large Enrollment For Local School

Attendance figures made avail-  
able this week by Principal C. A.  
Ledford show that there is an  
unusually large enrollment in the  
Southport school this fall.  
The total number of pupils in  
the grammar grades is 282. The  
first grade, Miss Clyde Bryan  
teacher, is unusually crowded,  
there being 62 pupils in this room.  
In the high school there is a  
total of 102 students with the  
10th grade having an enrollment  
of 32.  
At least one new teacher is  
badly needed to relieve the crow-  
ded conditions in the lower grades  
and Miss Annie May Woodside,  
county superintendent of schools,  
was in Raleigh Tuesday to see  
about this matter.

## Tide Table

Following is the tide table  
for Southport during the next  
week. These hours are approx-  
imately correct and were fur-  
nished The State Port Pilot  
through the courtesy of the  
Cape Fear Pilot's Association.

High Tide	Low Tide
Thursday, October 10	
5:40 a. m.	11:58 a. m.
6:01 p. m.	
Friday, October 11	
6:30 a. m.	0:17 a. m.
6:53 p. m.	12:50 p. m.
Saturday, October 12	
7:18 a. m.	1:04 a. m.
7:42 p. m.	1:41 p. m.
Sunday, October 13	
8:06 a. m.	1:52 a. m.
8:32 p. m.	2:31 p. m.
Monday, October 14	
8:53 p. m.	2:38 a. m.
9:21 p. m.	3:21 p. m.
Tuesday, October 15	
9:42 a. m.	3:26 a. m.
10:11 p. m.	4:11 p. m.
Wednesday, October 16	
10:32 a. m.	4:18 a. m.
11:04 p. m.	5:04 p. m.