

EXPLOSION AT FIRE KILLS LOCAL MAN

William H. Walker Dies At 9 O'Clock This Morning Of Injuries Sustained At Fire

Head Injuries Proved Fatal To Prominent Southport Citizen; Funeral To Be Tomorrow

WAREHOUSE OF W. B. & S. BURNED

Of Undetermined Origin Caused Estimated Damage Of \$5,000.00 Here Yesterday

William H. Walker, Southport real estate and insurance man, died at 9 o'clock this morning in the Memorial Hospital. Death was a result of injuries to head and chest sustained yesterday afternoon when he was struck by fragments from the explosion of an ammonia tank in the W. B. & S. railroad warehouse while that structure was up in flames.

The explosion was discovered at the railroad shortly after 6 o'clock. At the time the fire department and other citizens arrived on the scene, the warehouse was on fire. As firemen battled valiantly to check the flames, and prevent their spread to the home next door, the air suddenly rent with the noise of an explosion, and the crowd of spectators that had clustered about the blazing building fell back with one accord.

The excitement of the moment nobody saw what actually happened to Mr. Walker. Just before the explosion he had been going directly behind the warehouse home, and when he was seen following the blast he was lying on the ground in the yard. A flying fragment from the explosion apparently had struck him upon the head and on the neck.

Dr. L. C. Ferguson, whose name is in the same block, was immediately called to render first aid. Mr. Walker was removed to the Memorial Hospital.

His condition was pronounced extremely critical, and he was given little chance to live through the night.

Mr. Walker was one of the most widely known and highly respected citizens of Brunswick County for 14 years, from 1916 to 1930. He was registered as a voter, and for the past two years has served as manager of the Stevens Real Estate Agency in Southport.

He was 62 years of age and was a life long resident of Brunswick County. He was the son of Mr. R. and Charlotte Vereen and was married to the late Miss Ruth Evans.

In addition to his three children, Mrs. B. F. Walker, William H. Walker, Jr. and Daniel Walker, all of Southport, one brother, Dr. R. and four sisters, Mrs. D. Bellamy and Mrs. W. S. (Continued on page 4)

Daughter Of Minister Pays 50 Cent Debt After 24 Years

Stories of superior and almost unbelievable honesty crop up none too frequently and are far outnumbered by stories of dishonesty. Most such tales are told about the notoriously dishonest, scant attention is paid the good deeds of honest folk who tread the straight and narrow every day; yet these latter are the really deserving of acclaim.

Rev. J. J. Adams left the pulpit of the Baptist church at Whiteville 24 years ago. Even then he'd carried the word of God for years. The Reverend retired some years ago and now makes his home in Southport, but he's not idle; you've seen him on the streets of this town many times. He's a lank fellow with a sparse moustache and used to carry an umbrella—he discarded it for a raincoat after being referred to in the State Port pilot as "the man who looks like Neville Chamberlain". He travels about this section selling Bibles.

About 24 years ago Miss Ella Adams, then schoolgirl daughter of the minister, bought school supplies from George McNeill's Drug Store amounting to fifty cents and charged them. At home she found that her father had been called from his pulpit and they all left Whiteville before she could pay her piddling bill.

Last Monday personally Mrs. Ella Adams Brooks stopped at J. A. McNeill and Sons in Whiteville, enroute to visit her father in Washington, D. C., for a sandwich, paid for the sandwich, identified herself and paid the fifty cent debt that had been forgotten many years ago.

The government dredge, Henry Bacon, is still pounding away day and night at the removal of a few small shoals on the inland waterway near New River. No one here knows when this task will be finished and permit the vessel to come on to Southport to begin work on the new yacht basin.

She was originally scheduled to come about a month ago, at the time she was released from the shipyard in Norfolk. However, a few small shoals had developed in the waterway at various points and it was considered the interest of economy that these obstructions be removed while the ship was on her way here.

When she arrives, working three crews for 24-hours each day, she will be able to complete the new yacht basin in something like ten or eleven days. The oil company that is to construct the servicing facilities will require more time than that. However, when the first yachts begin to move south this fall the basin will be fully completed and the servicing facilities will have been constructed to the point that all boats can be taken care of nicely.

From Yachting Magazine this past week came a valuable news tip that may result in big dedication ceremonies for the basin, and possibly a big Gulf Stream fishing tournament, about the 23rd of October. One of the big yacht clubs in New York is arranging a conducted cruise of something like 100 to 150 power boats down the waterway, leaving New York October 14th. Several places down the coast are ports of call for this cruise and an effort is being made to have the longest call of all to be at the new yacht basin.

Many of the boats are sport fishing cruisers that are closing their summer fishing operations in New York and New Jersey on October 13th. The idea is to have the whole fleet here for dedication ceremonies for the yacht basin and to have all possible craft to participate in a one-day fishing tournament on the Gulf.

The fishing season here closes much later than in New York and New Jersey. With the boats operating there until October 13, it goes without saying that all sorts of big fish will still be off the Brunswick county coast when the fleet arrives here.

Dedication ceremonies and a fishing tournament with these luxuriant craft participating will result in wonderful publicity for the basin and also for the big game fishing off Southport.

Marsh Hen Season To Be Open Next Monday

First Chance Of Season For Local Nimrods To Show Their Skill; May Not Get Chance If Tide Is Not High

Drag out your shotguns and get your shallow-dart rowboats overboard, because Monday ushers in the marshhen season.

However, unless the usual signs belie themselves there'll be little more than the legal right on the side of hunters before about the middle of the month, for hunting marshhen is a business to be pursued at full moon high tide. September full moon is on the sixteenth.

There are a couple of points about the shooting season that County Game Warden Eustace Russ wants cleared up. One is that no birds may be killed before sunrise nor after sunset. The other is that no Federal stamp is required for marshhen hunting. However, a regular hunting license is a requisite, and woe unto the man who is caught without one.

Other dates and information concerning the hunting season has recently been released by the (Continued on page 4)

Change Name Of Menhaden Boat

There's no longer a boat in the local menhaden fleet called the R. B. Hawley.

Not that anything has happened to the double-decked craft of Captain John D. Erickson, for she's still afloat and seaworthy. Her name's been changed.

R. B. Hawley is the name of the president of the Cuban-American Sugar Co., from whom the local boat was purchased. Her name was not changed at that time, but recently permission was granted by the department of commerce to change the name to U. H. Cozart, in honor of the president of the Brunswick Navigation Co.

Good Luck On Fishing Trip

Out-Of-State Visitors Discover That Big Game Fishing From Southport Is Plenty Good

A. F. DeGreve, political writer for the United Press in Washington, D. C., became a strong advocate of the Gulf Stream fishing off Southport yesterday. Mrs. DeGreve, who accompanied him, became even stronger. She caught (Continued on page 4)

Newspapermen Make News When They Go Fishing

Not even the glamour of the tobacco market season in neighboring counties could check the flow of newspapermen and camera artists into Brunswick county last week. All sections of the state were represented by people seeking something interesting in the way of news or pictures. With few exceptions, all found what they were looking for.

Outstanding, perhaps, was Lawrence Leonard, sports editor of The Greensboro News. Here a month ago, Leonard became a great admirer of this section of Brunswick. Last week he ran down for a few hours with the Chamber of Commerce man. His aim was to get some pictures for a feature story he will shortly run in The Greensboro News. Incidentally, he advised he was com-

ing back September 8th and 9th for some fishing.

Another interesting and interested visitor was Maxon Parker of Parker Brothers, Ahsokie. The brothers own four county newspapers and they are rated the leading weekly newspaper publishers of North Carolina. Mrs. Parker and little Miss Julia and Joe were along and after staying for three or four days Mr. Parker advised he was taking them home and was going to round up a party from Ahsokie to come down and go golf stream fishing with him, about next week.

Paul Pillsbury, Columbia, S. C., owner of the Pillsbury sign and outdoor advertising, was here also accompanied by Mrs. Pillsbury and their daughter, Miss (Continued on page four)

Men Ordered Held For Grand Jury

Suggestion For Dedicating The New Yacht Basin

From Yachting Magazine Has Come A Tip That Fleet Of Small Boats Will Be Here In October

OF COURSE, YACHT BASIN COMES FIRST

Delay In Beginning Dredging Operations Means That Improvements Will Have To Be Rushed

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Jury List For September Term Superior Court

Fall Term Of Criminal Court Will Convene At Southport On Monday, September 30th

JUDGE WILLIAMS WILL PRESIDE

Much Interest Sure To Be Shown In Coming Trial Of Four Local Negroes Held For Assault

The fall term of Brunswick county Superior court for trial of criminal cases will convene on Monday, September 30, with Judge Clawson L. Williams of Sanford presiding.

More than the usual amount of interest is sure to be centered in this session because of the trial of the Southport negroes for assaulting two local officers. Not until the grand jury has investigated the facts of the case will it be known just what charge will be preferred against them.

The jury list for the term was drawn Monday while the board of county commissioners was in session, and the following men were named for jury service:

E. D. Milliken, Ash; S. S. Clemmons, Supply; Peter Hewett, Shallotte; H. R. Lancaster, Bolivia; M. A. Phelps, Bolivia; W. L. Stanley, Shallotte; Robert McLamb, Ash; J. T. Hickman, Bolivia; G. H. Caison, Supply; T. A. Henry, Leland; Claude Moore, Southport; Gilbert Brown, Supply; J. D. Bender, Supply; W. B. Phillips, Ash; S. L. Kirby, Jr., Supply; Geo. W. McLamb, Shallotte; B. M. McKeithan, Bolivia; A. C. Bellamy, Wampee; Harry Robinson, Southport; J. I. Gore, Winnabow; J. A. Bellamy, Ash; Mack A. Moore, Supply; C. S. Lewis, Bolivia; O. R. Mintz, Ash; J. A. McNeill, Southport; Carl Long, Wampee; M. E. Chadwick, Supply; B. W. Hewett, Shallotte; J. R. Ennis, Leland.

IN THE WAREHOUSE



ON SALE—Warehouse scenes like the one above are familiar to Brunswick county farmers at this season of the year as they carry their 1940 crop to market.

Tobacco Averages Over 20-Cents At Whiteville

Smith Says That The Whiteville Market Is Enjoying The Best Season Thus Far In History

HAS ALREADY PASSED THREE MILLION MARK

Sales For First Six Days Of This Year Are Already Far Out In Front Of Those Last Year

"It's the best season, so far, in the history of our market," said M. S. Smith, sales supervisor of the Whiteville tobacco market this morning. "Today's sale will be the largest sale of locally grown tobacco in the history of the market and the quality of the offerings is somewhat better than was sold last week."

"So far this has been the best opening week of the market, with only six sales days thus far the market sold a total of 5,500,000 pounds of tobacco for an official average of \$20.20 per cwt. The first four sales for the 1939 season showed a total of 2,898,945 pounds sold for a total of \$545,469.14, making an average of \$18.81 per hundred pounds. Besides selling more tobacco during the first four sales the market shows a much better average per pound.

The break of tobacco offered today is definitely better in quality as a whole. Mr. Smith believes, and today's sale will be a record breaker he thinks. He feels sure that bidding will be much more spirited than heretofore because the break is composed mostly of locally grown tobacco.

To Be Ready For Work May 15th

M. O. Nelson, Jr., of Whiteville, Announces That He And An Associate Will Erect Mill

M. O. Nelson, Jr., of Whiteville, announced Tuesday that he and an associate have already purchased a 75 barrel per day capacity flour mill and that it will be installed and ready for operation on or before the 15th of May.

Land has already been leased on the corner of Thompson and Virgil Streets in Whiteville for the erection of a building suitable for the business.

Approximately five or six people will be employed to operate the plant, with expert millers in charge. Mr. Nelson says that the equipment to be installed will be the best available to manufacture 100 per cent bleached flour either plan or self-rising—as the customer desires.

Recorder Has A Busy Session

Monday Was A Busy Day For Judge Walter M. Stalander; Many Cases Grow Out Of Traffic Violations

In Recorder's court here Monday a heavy docket was heard by Judge Walter M. Stalander, many of the cases growing out of traffic violations.

Billie Willis, white, was charged with driving without an operator's license. His case was remanded to juvenile court for trial.

Floyd Hewett, white, was found guilty of aiding and abetting in operating a motor vehicle without operator's license.

Murdoch Simmons, white, pleaded guilty to charges of operating without operator's license and was taxed with costs.

W. A. Willet, white, pleaded guilty to charges of reckless operation. Judgment was suspended upon payment of costs and a fine of \$25.00.

Daniel Kern Reeves, white, pleaded guilty to charges of being drunk and disorderly. Judgment of 30 days on the roads was suspended upon payment of a fine of \$25.00 and costs.

Willie Hewett, white, was found guilty of drunken driving. Sentence of 6 months on the roads was suspended upon payment of costs and a fine of \$65.00, his license being revoked for 6 months.

Jack Bowen, colored, pleaded guilty to charges of drunk driving. Given 6 months on the roads, this judgment was suspended upon payment of a fine of \$50.00 and costs. His license was revoked for 6 months.

Abraham Frink, colored, was found guilty of being a nuisance and was given 30 days on the roads. Notice of appeal was given and bond was set at \$50.00.

Alfred Newton, white, was found guilty of being drunk and disorderly and was given 4 months on the roads. Judgment was suspended upon payment of a fine of \$25.00 and costs and upon condition that the defendant re-

Going Back To The First Trip With First Automobile

Many people do not know that the purchaser and also the driver of the first automobile ever owned in Brunswick county are still living. What became of the car history sayeth not.

It was back in the winter of 1911, same year that the railroad came to Southport, when J. J. Loughlin, Sr., went to Henderson and purchased a Corbett automobile, the first ever bought by any citizen of Brunswick. The contraption was painted a bright red and was topless. Its engine was something in the order of those that were latter used in the Model T Fords.

The machine cost \$450.00 there in Henderson. Mr. Loughlin paid the expenses of bringing it here, used it 5 days and was paid out \$210.00 more for repairs. He then sent it to Wilmington and placed it in Clyde Lassiter's garage for repairs. That is the last he wants to remember it. At the time there were a number of cars in Wilmington and garages were just coming into being.

J. J. Loughlin, Jr., then Young Joe, was chauffeur of the car during his fathers brief period of ownership, which resulted in the loss of something like \$666.00. Joe is credited with having driven the machine about town a bit and to have actually steered it for several miles out in the country and back. This trip out in the country, as well as the entire period of ownership, was in the middle of winter. When the epochal trip to Smith's Cross Roads and back was completed, Young Joe forgot to drain the water from the engine.

Despite the fact that the Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce swears that it never snows, sleets or freezes much in Brunswick county, it froze that night and bursted the head clean out of the one and only automobile engine in Brunswick county.

Four Southport Negroes Ordered Held For Trial

Coroner's Inquest Into The Death Of Charles W. Easley Was Held In Brunswick County Court-house Monday

TWO OF ACCUSED PRISONERS FREED

Chief Of Police Mel Lewis And Dr. L. C. Ferguson Took Stand To Testify Before Coroner Caison

Following an inquest into the death of Charles W. Easley, former Southport peace officer, Monday night in the Brunswick county courthouse, Coroner John G. Caison ordered four of the Southport negroes charged with being among his assailants held for grand jury investigation.

Nelson Hankins and James Bowen are being held under bond of \$2,000.00 each; James Green is being held under \$1,000 bond and Snooks Clemmons is being held under bond of \$500.

The coroner's jury found no cause for holding Tippy Hankins nor Robert Hewett, and James Joyner and Douglas Swain both have been at liberty for three weeks after an action of nol prois with leave was taken as to them.

Dr. L. C. Ferguson, Southport surgeon, who performed an autopsy upon the body of Mr. Easley a short time following his death, stated that the primary cause of death was hemorrhage from a gastric ulcer; secondary cause of death was pneumonia; contributory cause of death was blows sustained by Mr. Easley on the night of July 14, said to have been inflicted while he was assisting Police Chief Mel Lewis to make an arrest. Dr. Ferguson stated that Mr. Easley had been totally disabled from that time until the date of his death.

Officer Lewis was the first and only other witness to take the stand. He told of the officers' scuffle with Nelson Hankins as they sought to place him in their car following his arrest, and he related having seen others whom he identified strike Mr. Easley during the fight.

In their verdict, members of the coroner's jury recommended that Nelson Hankins, James Green, James Bowen and Snooks Clemmons be held under sufficient bail for grand jury investigation. It also was their recommendation that Tippy Hankins, Robert Hewett and James Joyner be released.

Solicitor David Sinclair attended the hearing, and he publicly congratulated the jury members upon the soundness of their verdict. "That was a fine verdict," he told them. "We want to hold the ones we believe are guilty, but those who apparently had nothing to do with the trouble had better be turned loose now than later. I believe that you (Continued on page 4)

Rules Governing Use Of Library

Susie Sellers, Local Librarian, Prepared A Set Of Rules For Library Patrons

In order that any confusion resulting from regulations governing the use of the State Port Pilot Public Library may be removed, the following set of rules has been compiled by Miss Susie Sellers, librarian, and is being printed for benefit of library patrons:

Any resident of this city in good standing may borrow books from the library without deposit membership fee.

Non residents may borrow books on payment of a deposit of one dollar to be refunded when books are returned.

Books may be kept 14 days unless marked "7 days" and may be renewed for two weeks.

Books overdue are subject to a fine of one cent per day. Payment to pay fine will debar use of library.

Books injured, defaced or lost must be replaced on demand for cost.

Books may be reserved on payment of two cents; as soon as the book wanted is returned to the library the person reserving the book will be notified.

Tide Table

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

TIDE TABLE	
Thursday, August 29	
1:02 a. m.	10:00 a. m.
4:23 p. m.	11:00 p. m.
Friday, August 30	
5:02 a. m.	11:04 a. m.
5:21 p. m.	11:50 p. m.
Saturday, August 31	
5:55 a. m.	11:58 a. m.
6:11 p. m.	
Sunday, September 1	
6:44 a. m.	0:41 a. m.
7:00 p. m.	12:53 p. m.
Monday, September 2	
7:30 a. m.	1:30 a. m.
7:46 p. m.	1:46 p. m.
Tuesday, September 3	
8:17 a. m.	2:17 a. m.
8:33 p. m.	2:37 p. m.
Wednesday, September 4	
9:05 a. m.	3:03 a. m.
9:23 p. m.	3:26 p. m.